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SHANA OH YOSHITSUNE

by SAWADA Hirofumi /沢田 ひろふみ

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Shana Oh Yoshitsune 55

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範頼
希義
義門
頼朝
朝長
義平

遮那王 義経

ナオウ

遮那王 義経

奥州編

沢田ひろふみ

MONTHLY SHONEN MAGAZINE COMICS

15

KCGM1022
MONTHLY SHONEN MAGAZINE COMICS

遮那王 義経 奥州編 15

SAWADA HIROFUMI
沢田ひろふみ

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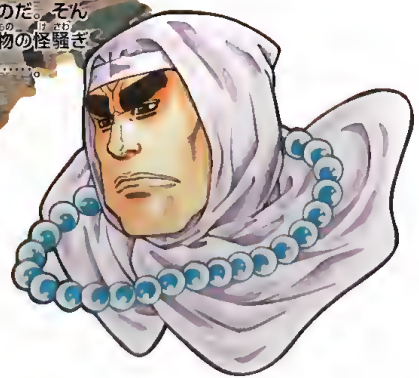
佐藤兄弟の危機を救い信頼を得た義経。だが、そんな兄弟も問題を抱えていた。何をやっても勝てない弟、忠信が兄、継信に複雑な思いを抱いていたのだ。そんな時、信夫庄に物の怪騒ぎがもち上がった……。



MONTHLY SHONEN MAGAZINE COMICS

沢田ひろふみ作品

遮那王 —義経— 1～15
山賊王 1～8
以下続刊

遮那王 義経

奥州編

沢田ひろふみ

The story so far...

Sensing that Kiyomori was keeping a close eye on Hyouta, who is now living his life as Ushiwakamaru, Hyouta's stepfather Fujiwara no Naganari sends Hyouta to Hiraizumi in Oshu. Together with Musashibo Benkei, the "Vassal of Loyalty", and Ise-Saburou Yoshimori, the "Vassal of Courage", who joined him midway through his journey, Yoshitsune entered Hiraizumi and met the Satou brothers. Yoshitsune meets with Fujiwara no Hidehira, the "Ruler of Oshu", and abruptly asks for "his assistance in defeating the Heike". But in order to probe Yoshitsune's character, Hidehira tells him to "take your time and relax a while".

I'LL BEAT BROTHER IN AT LEAST ONE THING!!
MIZUKI-SAMA HAS ALSO DISAPPEARED ALONG WITH HER NAGINATA!!
WHAT?!!
TH-THAT IS, TADANOBU-SAMA IS GONE
HIS ARMOR IS GONE AS WELL, SO I THOUGHT MAYBE SOMETHING MIGHT HAVE HAPPENED...
WHAT?!

Meanwhile, Yoshitsune earned the trust of the Satou house by using some of the 36 Stratagems of the Song to save the Satou brothers from a crisis which arose from their getting into a spat with Kuronwa Terushige. After this, there is a disturbance involving an evil spirit in Shinobu. While everyone was still formulating a plan, Tadanobu, envying his brother's seeming easy success in everything, left to exterminate the evil spirit alone to prove himself better for once. His sister Mizuki chases after him in an attempt to lend a hand.

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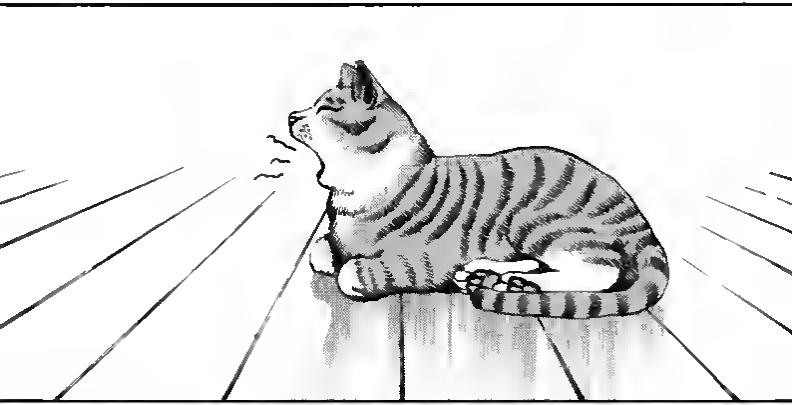
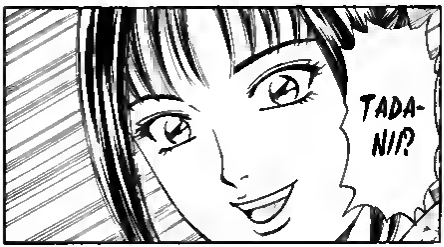


Chapter 55 The Murderous Evil Ghost and the Family

TADA-NII!
TADA-NII!

I HAVE TO HELP HIM SHOW UP THAT GENJI BOY!!
TADA-NII!
TADA-NII!

I CAME OUT THIS FAR BE-CAUSE I COULDN'T FIND HIM...
HOW FAR DID TADA-NII GO?
BUT I'M SURE TADA-NII'S HERE


TADA-NII?

Rustle

KY
AH
H!!
AH...
O-OH NO IS THIS THE NUE?!

TADA-NII!!!

DON'T BE STUPID!!
I-I WANTED TO HELP YOU, TADA-NII...
MIZUKI, WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?

#ppp #ppp #ppp #pp

STICK CLOSE TO ME!!
O-OKAY!!
I WASN'T ABLE TO WOUND IT! IT'LL BE BACK!

MIZUKI-SAN!!
TADANOBU-DONO!
I CAN'T TELL WHICH WAY TO GO SINCE WE WERE LOST WHEN WE WENT THERE
WE HAVE TO HURRY AND BRING THEM BACK BEFORE THE EVIL SPIRIT FINDS THEM!!
DON'T TELL ME THEY WENT TO WHERE THE EVIL SPIRIT WAS...
HOW FAR IN DID THOSE TWO GO?
TH-THIS IS!!
THE GRASS HERE IS WILTED...
WHAT'S THIS...?

WIND GRASS?

THERE'S A CAVE OF WIND GRASS HERE.

YOSHITSUNE-SAMA, THEY AREN'T HERE
DON'T COME HERE!

AH.
DON'T COME NEAR HERE.

THIS WAY!!
KYAHH!
BE CAREFUL!
IT'S OVER THERE!!
TH-THERE THEY ARE!!
WHAT?
TADANOBU-DONO!!

IF WE DON'T CONFIRM ITS LOCATION FIRST, IT'LL ATTACK US FROM THE THICKET!!
IT'S BEST IF WE DON'T MOVE
WHERE IS IT?!

AH!!
A TIGER?!
WAH!

WAS THIS TIGER!!!
THE TRUE IDENTITY OF THE EVIL SPIRIT...
RUN AWAY! COME OVER HERE, AWAY FROM THE THICKET!!
NOW, TADANOBU!
IT'LL RUN AWAY FROM FIRE!
P-POINT YOUR TORCHES AT IT!

I WILL DEFEAT IT!!
WHAT?!
IT'S GOING TO KILL MIZUKI, TOO!!
Y-YOU FOOL!
..Ugh.

COME ON, MIZUKI!!
M-MIZUKI, ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?!
YOU REALLY MADE US WORRY!!
So that's a real tiger I've only seen them in drawings
Like the nue in the stories it doesn't looks like an arrow or two will bring it down
THIS MIGHT BE MORE TROUBLESOME THAN A NUE!!

SATOU MANSION
WHO KNEW THE EVIL SPIRIT WOULD TURN OUT TO BE A TIGER...
BUT WHAT'S AN ANIMAL LIKE THAT DOING HERE?
THAT FOOL. EVEN IF HIDEHIRA-SAMA HAD RECEIVED THAT TIGER, IT WOULD HAVE BEEN NOTHING BUT TROUBLE...
ABOUT THAT... I HEARD THIS IN THE MARKETPLACE THIS MORNING.
THERE WAS A PERSON WHO BROUGHT A TIGER FROM OVERSEAS AS TRIBUTE TO HIDEHIRA-SAMA,
AND RUMORS SAY THAT IT ESCAPED AS SOON AS THEY LANDED DUE TO STORMY WEATHER
BUT AS LONG AS IT IS IN THE MOUNTAINS OF SHI-NOBU...
WE CANNOT LEAVE IT BE. THE QUESTION NOW IS HOW DO WE EXTERMINATE IT.

YOU LOVE ANIMALS, MORI-SAN. DON'T YOU KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT TIGERS?
NOPE
I KNOW PLENTY ABOUT DOGS, BUT BASED ON ITS MOVEMENTS AND APPEARANCE, THAT'S A BIG CAT.
I DON'T HATE CATS, BUT I DON'T KNOW MUCH ABOUT THEM EITHER.
A CAT, HUH...
WAIT, WHAT ARE YOU DOING BRINGING A CAT HERE?
WE MIGHT FIND A SOLUTION FOR THIS IF WE OBSERVE ONE, RIGHT?
FIRST, KNOW YOUR ENEMY
THIS ISN'T AN ENEMY. IT'S A CAT
THE FIRST PROBLEM IS HOW WE BRING IT OUT FROM A PLACE WHERE IT CAN HIDE ITSELF...

Sniff
Sniff
THIS IS ALL I CAN THINK OF.
UMM, WHEN IT COMES TO CATS...
Nya, nya~
Nya, nya~
IT PROBAB-LY WOULD, RIGHT?
NOT SURE...
WOULD IT WORK ON A TIGER, TOO?
IT'S CATNIP CATS LOVE ITS SMELL AND GET INTOXICATED BY IT.
WHAT IS THIS? THE CAT'S GONE LIMP AND STARTED MEOWING.
...

THEN IF WE DRAW IT OUT WITH CATNIP AND SHOOT IT WITH ARROWS, WE CAN TAKE IT DOWN?
NO
IT WON'T BE INTOXICATED ENOUGH TO STAY THERE AND BE HIT BY MULTIPLE ARROWS
IT WILL RUN AFTER ONE OR TWO ARROWS. IT WON'T DIE.
HMM
.....
THERE'S A WAY TO DEAL A FINISHING BLOW
AH?
HOW?
YESTERDAY, ON THE MOUNTAIN
I FOUND A WAY.

A CAVE...
OF WIND GRASS.
A CAVE...
OF WIND GRASS?
SPEAKING OF WHICH, YOU MENTIONED THAT YESTERDAY, TOO
WHAT IS THIS WIND GRASS?

UNTIE ME!!
THOSE ARE THE LORD'S ORDERS
WERE YOU NOT IN DANGER YESTERDAY?
WHY ARE THEY LEAVING ME OUT OF THE TIGER EXTERMINATION?!
MY LADY NEEDS TO BE MORE RESERVED LIKE A PROPER YOUNG WOMAN
Ugh...
THAT INCOMPETENT GENJI BOY WAS NOTHING BUT A HINDRANCE YESTERDAY, TOO.
WE HAVE TO SHOW HIM HOW AMAZING TADA-NII IS!!

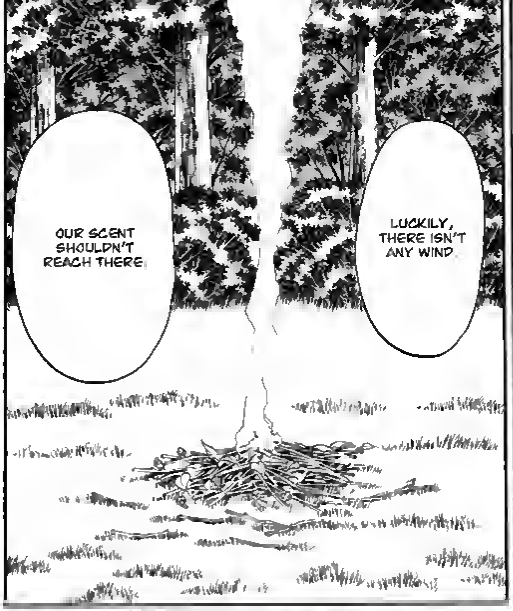
SUCH A CAVE EXISTS?!!
MY WORD!!
IF WE GET IT IN THERE...
WE CAN TAKE IT DOWN FOR SURE!!
I SEE. IT MAY BE POSSIBLE WITH SUCH A CAVE
HMM, BUT IT WILL BE DIFFICULT TO LURE IT INTO THE CAVE WITH THE SMELL OF CATNIP ALONE...
WE HAVE TO GET THE TIGER DEEP INSIDE IN ONE GO. IF WE'RE SLOW ABOUT IT, THE TIGER WILL GET SUSPICIOUS AND LIKELY ESCAPE...
WE CAN HAVE SOMEONE ACT AS BAIT AND LURE IT IN
AH?

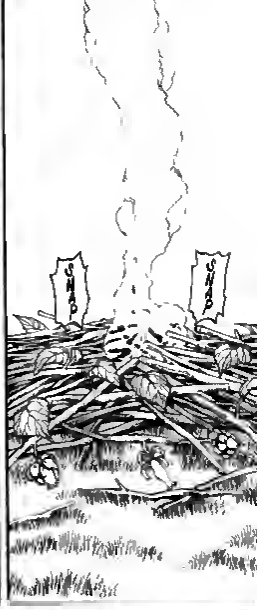
I'LL BE THE BAIT.
B-BUT, YOU!
THIS IS OUR ONLY OPTION AND THE MOST SOUND
I WAS ORIGINALLY PREPARED FOR DEATH.
YOU'LL BE KILLED!!
WHAT?! HUMANS CAN'T COMPARE TO THAT THING'S SPEED!
FATHER ?!
AH?!
WE'LL LEAVE IT TO YOU, TADANOBU.

TADA-NOBU!!
SHOW US YOUR WORTH AS A MAN...
I SEE MOTOHARU-DONO IS TRYING TO GET TADANOBU-DONO TO GAIN SOME CONFIDENCE
BUT WILL HE BE ALL RIGHT WITH SUCH A DANGEROUS METHOD..?

This role which my brother is hesitating to take...
I WILL SEE IT THROUGH!!
ALL RIGHT, LET'S GO!!
EVERYONE READY?!

PLEASE DON'T BE SO ANGRY. HOW ABOUT SOME SWEETS?
MY LADY...
HAH?!
OH NO!!

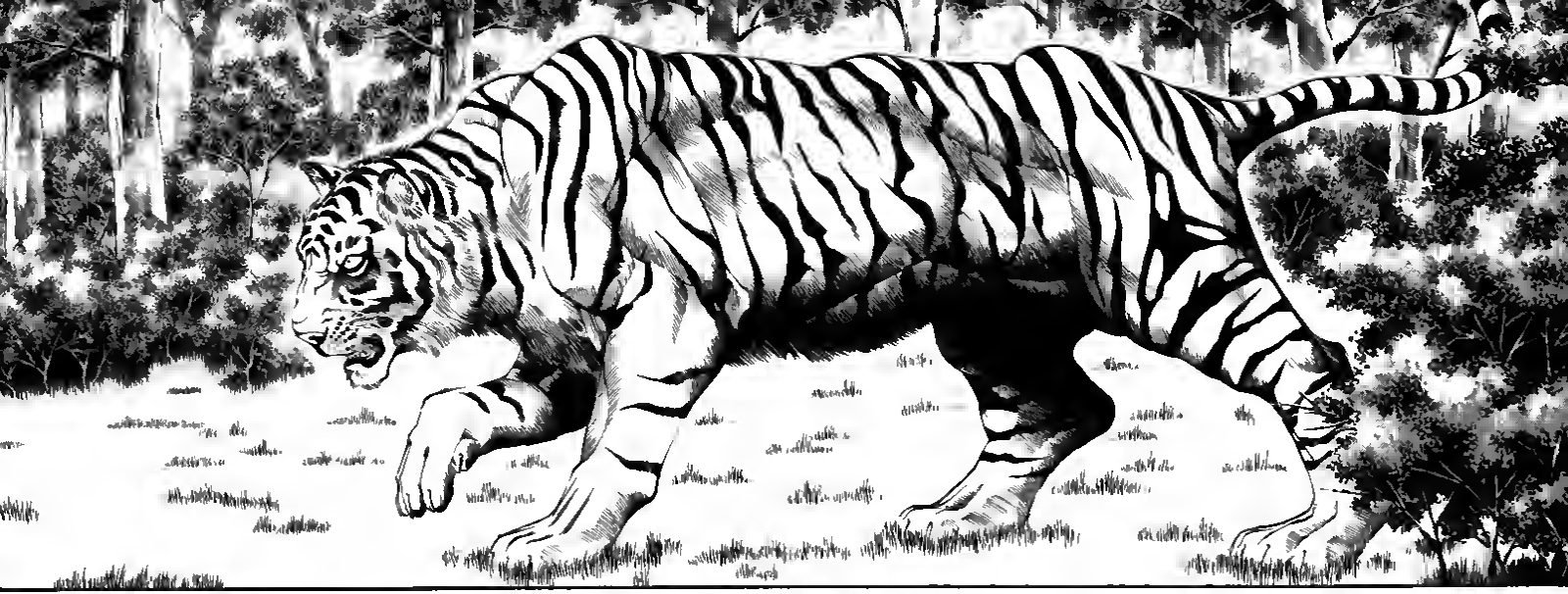

OUR SCENT SHOULDN'T REACH THERE.
LUCKILY, THERE ISN'T ANY WIND.


SNAP
SNAP

RUSTLE

AFTER BEING LURED OVER BY THE CATNIP.
NOW WE JUST WAIT FOR IT TO SHOW ITSELF.

MIZUKI!!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING STARING AT AN OPEN FIRE?
WE CLEARLY TOLD YOU NOT TO COME!!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?!
BE QUIET!
WHAT?!
RUSTLE
IT'S HERE.
I...
SHH!!
I...



HUH? WHAT IS TADA-NII GOING TO DO?

NOW, TADANOBU-DONO.

*T/N: 1 CHO = 109.1 METERS OR 357.9 FEET. SO ABOUT 216M (716 FT)

PLEASE TRY AND MANAGE TO LURE IT OUT THERE SOMEHOW AS THE BAIT.

GOT IT.

IT'S ABOUT 2 CHO* TO THAT CAVE.

ガ…

ガ…

ガ…

THAT BODY'S GOT TO WEIGH OVER 50 KAN*.

I-IT'S HUGE.

*T/N: 1 KAN = 3.75 KILOGRAMS OR 8.31 POUNDS, SO OVER 183KG (403 LBS)

All right, it worked!

IT REALLY IS LIKE A CAT.

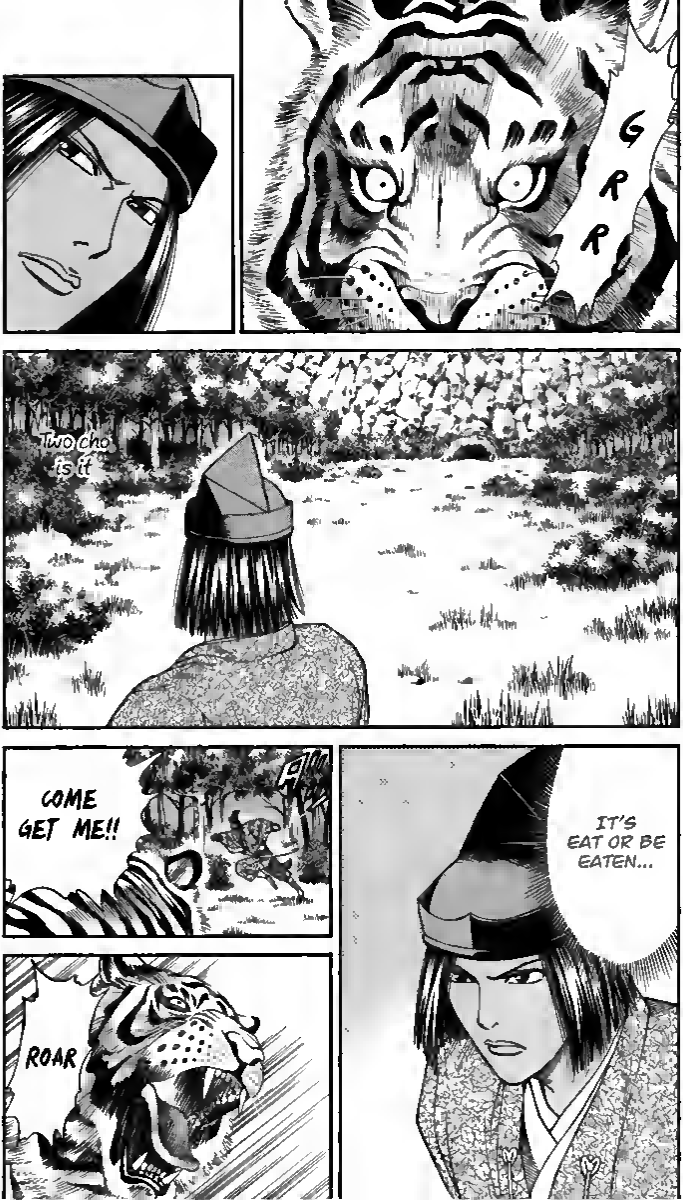
ゴロ

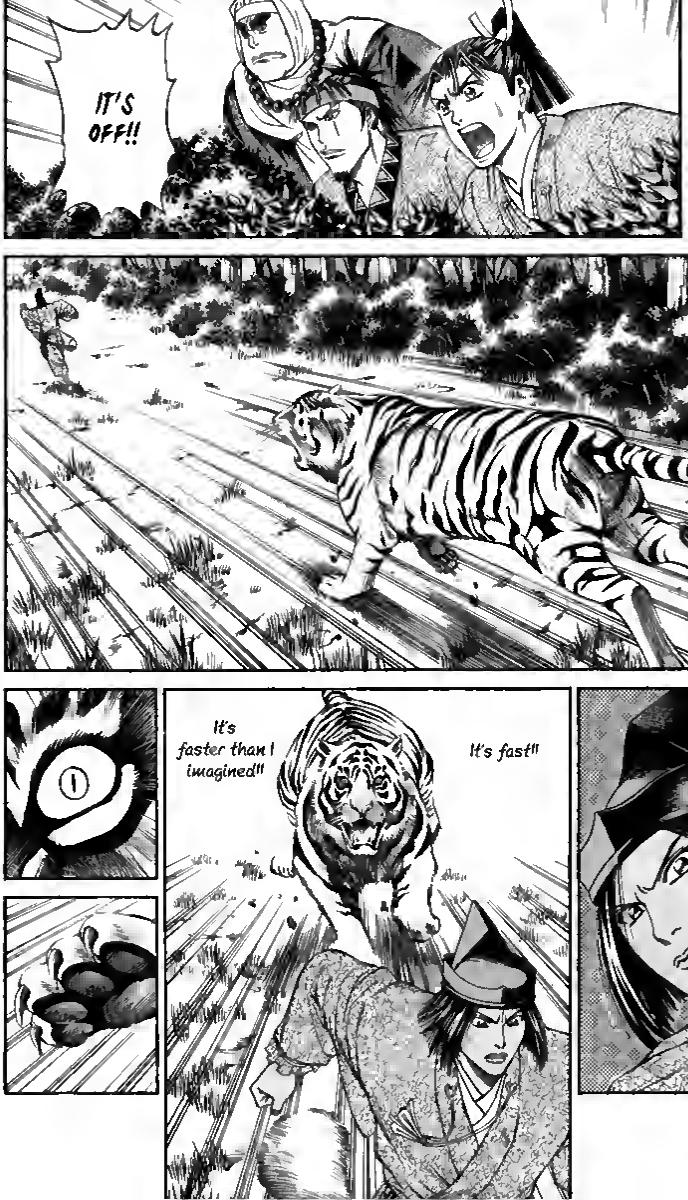
ゴロ

B-By himself?
HE DOESN'T HAVE TO GO THAT FAR TO SHOW HIM UP... COMPETING AGAINST THAT BEAST IS TOO RECKLESS!!
WHY IS TADA-NII BEING PUT IN SUCH DANGER?!
WHAT?! TADA-NII IS THE BAIT?!
HE VOLUNTEERED FOR IT HIMSELF.

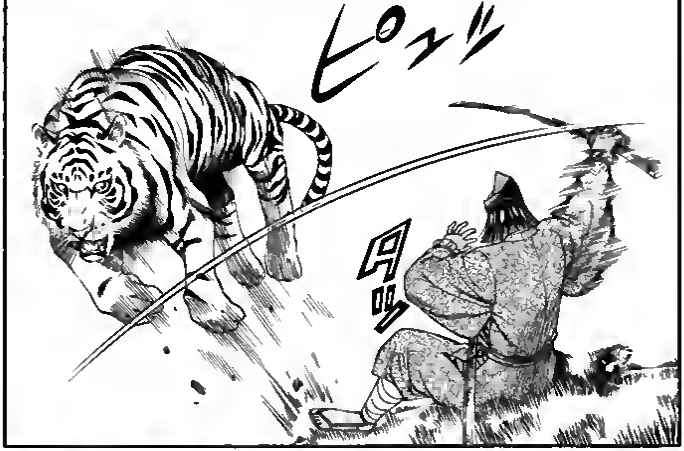
Tada-ni!...
BE CAREFUL!!

FLOP
FLOP
FLOP


GRRR
Two cho is it
COME GET ME!!
ROAR
IT'S EAT OR BE EATEN...


IT'S OFF!!
①
It's faster than I imagined!!
It's fast!!

ヒュッ
GAH!!
LOOK OUT!!
UGH!
TADA-NI!!!


ヒュン
タッ

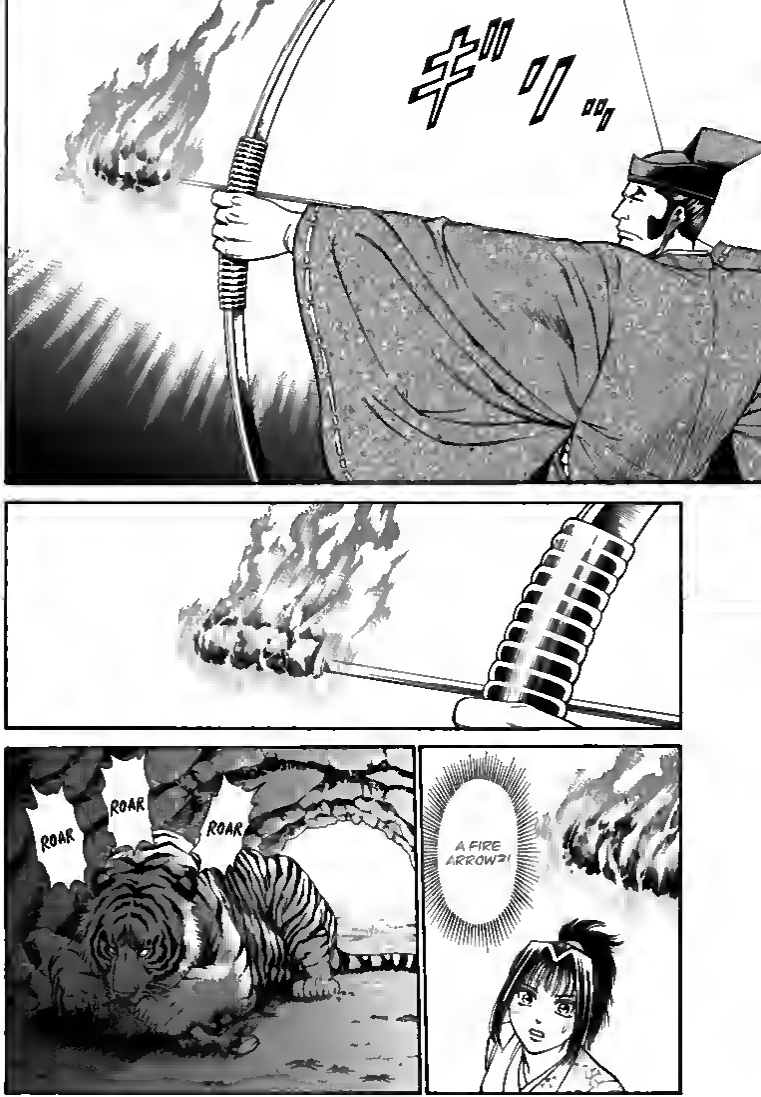
THE WOUND IS LIGHT I CAN STILL RUN!!

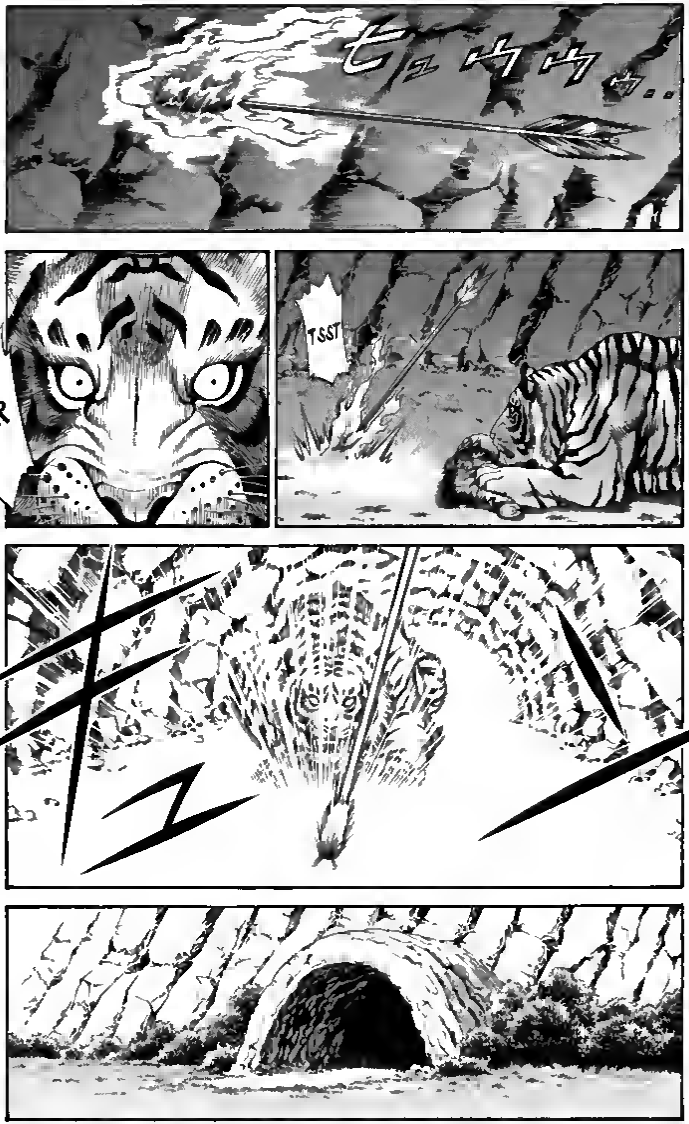
トッ

Don't lose!
Damn it!
I can't believe two cho feets this fat!!
STILL?!
HAA
HAA
HAA
Don't lose!
IT'S ALL RIGHT!! BELIEVE IN YOUR BROTHER!!
UGH!
IT'LL CATCH HIM BEFORE HE REACHES THE CAVE!!
I-IT'S NO GOOD!

ALMOST THERE!
ガルォォォ
ドゴン
ハッ

ALL RIGHT!!
TADA-NOBU DID IT!!
IT'S IN!!
TSUGUNOBU-DONO!!
NOW!
ARE YOU GOING TO TRAP IT?!
WHAT IS THE POINT OF CORNERING IT?!


ROAR
ROAR
ROAR
A FIRE ARROW?!


GRR
TSST

WH-
WHAT IS
THIS?
WHY WAS
THERE AN
EXPLO-
SION?!

ピッ
ピッ
ピッ

ドサッ!!

ガシ…!!

Grr...

POKE
POKE
WE TOOK IT DOWN!!
WE DID IT!
YOSHITSUNE-SAMA FOUND IT FOR US
HUH?
For a cave to blow out fire. What was in there exactly?
Wh-What was that explosion?
PHEW

*T/N: NATURAL GAS. HE IS MISTAKING THE WILTED GRASS AROUND THE CAVE AS THE SOURCE, HOWEVER.

BECAUSE WITH AN EXPLOSION THAT POWERFUL, NO MATTER HOW LARGE THE TIGER, IT WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO WITHSTAND IT.
I KNEW SETTING A FIRE NEARBY WOULD CAUSE AN EXPLOSION, SO I WANTED TO SOMEHOW LURE THE TIGER IN THERE.
THERE WAS SUCH WIND IN THESE MOUNTAINS...
WIND GRASS?

IT CAUSED A SIMILAR EXPLOSION AND THEY ENDED UP DYING.
A LONG TIME AGO, WHEN I WAS CAMPING OUT WITH FRIENDS, THREE OF THEM TRIED TO LIGHT A FIRE IN A CAVE.
HUH?
HOW DO YOU KNOW SOMETHING LIKE THAT?
...

...
I CAN'T POSSIBLY FORGET ABOUT WIND GRASS...
THOSE FRIENDS I WAS JUST TALKING WITH BECAME VICTIMS RIGHT BEFORE MY EYES.
AH.
HUH, WAIT, A SON OF GENJI WAS COMING OUTSIDE?
YOSHI-TSUNE-SAMA
I-I MEANT I HEARD A STORY LIKE THAT.
HA HA HA HA...
NO... UMM...
WE COME TO THIS MOUNTAIN ALL THE TIME AND EVEN WE DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT IT
THAT HE WOULD NOTICE THAT A STEP JUST COMING ONCE YESTERDAY.
AND HE WAS EVEN CLEVER ENOUGH TO USE IT TO EXTERMINATE THE TIGER...
NO, IT WASN'T THAT BIG A DEAL...
IF THIS CONTINUED, WHO'S TO SAY HOW MANY OF SHINOBU'S PEOPLE WOULD HAVE BEEN KILLED?
WE WERE SAVED THIS TIME AS WELL THANKS TO YOUR STRATEGY, YOSHITSUNE-SAMA. THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

HE WASN'T JUST AN INCOMPETENT GENJI BOY...
I CAN'T BELIEVE EVERYONE WAS ACTING ACCORDING TO A STRATEGY DEVISED BY YOSHITSUNE...
IT'S ALL RIGHT! BELIEVE IN YOUR BROTHER!!
MAYBE THAT WAS TRUE, TOO...
THE FACT THAT HE SAVED TSUGU-NII FROM THE INCIDENT WITH THE PERSON FROM ECHIZEN...
S-SO CHEEKY...
TO SPEW SUCH MANLY WORDS AT ME...

MM, YOU DID WELL, TADANOBU.
IT WENT WELL THANKS TO YOU, TADANOBU-DONO.
AH, TADANOBU-DONO, NICE WORK.
IS YOUR LEG OKAY?
JUST A SCRATCH.
YOU OUTDID TSUGUNOBU.
THAT WOULDN'T HAVE WORKED WITHOUT YOU.
Ugh..
ALL I DID WAS RUN!
That was a trifling success It wasn't anything worth comparing to my brother
YOU'RE SHAKING ARE YOU COLD?
WHAT'S WRONG, MIZUKI.
LOOKS LIKE HE'S STILL DOESN'T HAVE ANY CONFIDENCE...
NO GOOD.

TSUGU-NII, BEHIND YOU!!
!!

BROTHER, MOVE!!
WAH!
TADA-NOBU!!

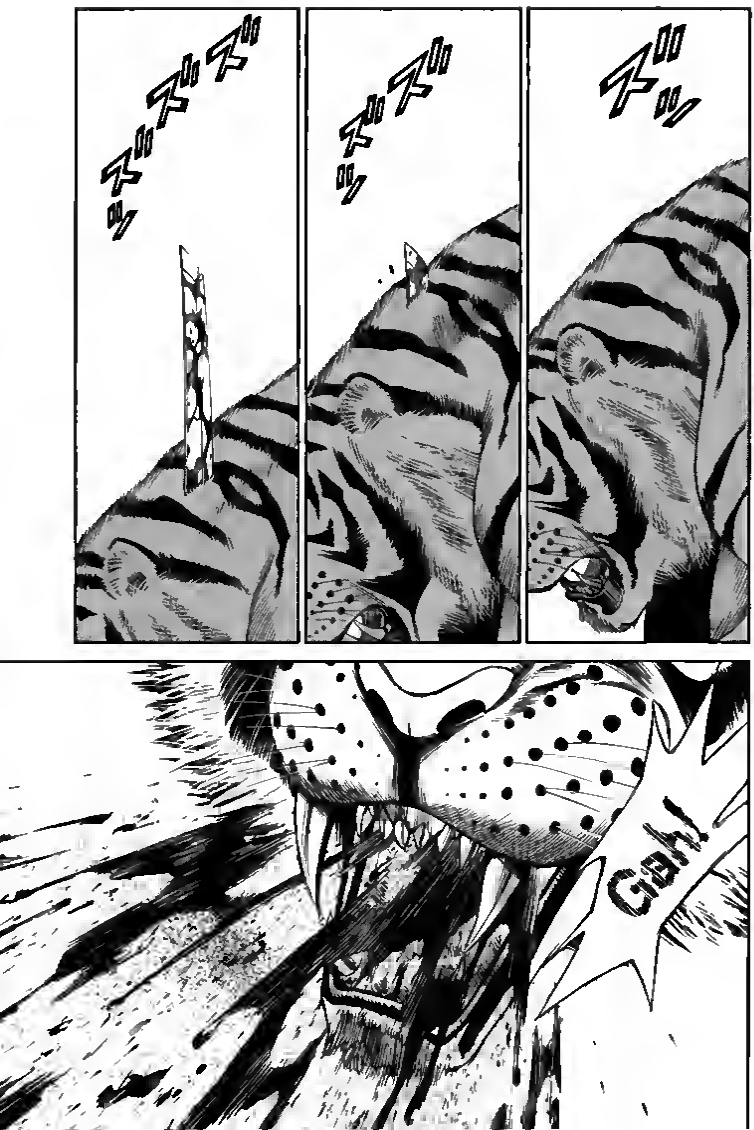
UGH!

TADA-NOBU!!
HE'S DONE FOR IF HE FALLS OVER!

IT'S HIS LEG!!
H-HE'S FALLING!!

ズサッ
ドサッ
Ahh...
TADA-
NI!!!
!!

HMM?


Grr...
Grr...
Grr...

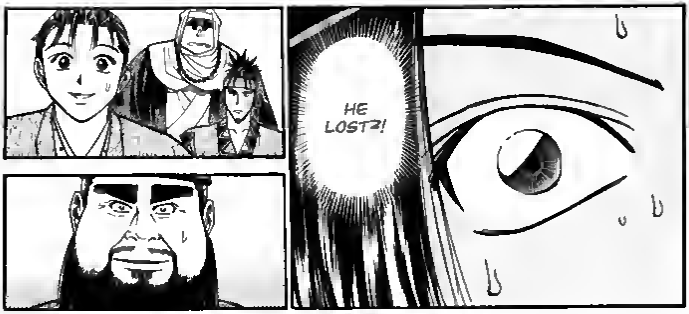
H-He thrust his tachi into its throat from below

HAA.
HAA.
HAA.
HAA.

TADA-NOBU!!
ARE YOU OKAY?
YEAH.
PHEW...
Tada-nii, your face is wounded...
IT'S NO BIG DEAL.
D-DID YOU FALL OVER ON PURPOSE?
IT'S DIFFICULT TO AIM FOR THE THROAT HEAD ON. FROM BELOW, I COULD SEE ITS THROAT.
ALSO, THE WOUND WOULD GO DEEPER WITH ITS WEIGHT ON THE BLADE

MY LIFE WAS SPARED THANKS TO YOU...
TADA-NOBU.
AND WITH SUCH A DAREDEVIL MOVE AMAZING!!
F-FOR HIM TO THINK THAT FAR AHEAD IN THAT INSTANT
IF YOU HADN'T TAKEN ACTION...
I HONESTLY WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN ABLE TO MOVE WITH THE TIGER BEFORE ME.
THANK YOU.
YOU SAVED MY LIFE.
I saved your life?

I LOSE.
A SOUND DEFEAT.
ACTING AS BAIT EARLIER, AND THAT INSTANTANEOUS EXTERMINATION OF THE TIGER...
I'M INCAPABLE OF SUCH RISKY STUNTS.


HE LOST?!

I.
YEAH, YOU WERE AMAZING, TADA-N!!!!

I WAS ENVIOUS OF YOU, BROTHER.
AH?
BROTHER
YOU'RE BETTER THAN ME AT EVERY-THING,
HUH?
I'M ENVIOUS OF YOU, TOO.

PFFT.
You're not that handsome either, but you're still more popular with the ladies.
ALL I GET AROUND ME ARE FILTHY MEN
I WISH I HAD THAT FACE OF YOURS.
WHAT?!!!
NO POINT IN YOU LIKING IT.
I LIKE THAT FACE OF YOURS!!
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING, TSUGU-NII?!! YOU'RE A FINE MAN!

YOSHI-TSUNE-SAMA,
I THANK YOU
I DIDN'T DO ANYTHING
MY PLAN WAS IN-COMPLETE, TOO...
I'M KID-DING.
Ha ha ha ha
DON'T POUT, MIZUKI.
NO, IT WAS BECAUSE YOUR STRATEGY HEAVILY WOUNDED THE TIGER...
THAT TADANOBU WAS ABLE TO TAKE IT DOWN
YOSHITSUNE-SAMA, NOT ONLY DID YOU STRATEGY EXTERMINATE THE TIGER,
BUT ALSO THE CLOUD INSIDE TADANOBU'S HEART AS WELL.
CHAPTER 55 END

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SHANA OH YOSHITSUNE

by SAWADA Hirofumi /沢田 ひろふみ

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Shana Oh Yoshitsune 56

Credits
Translator: choiboy84
Proofreader: Mztlplx
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QC: Ell

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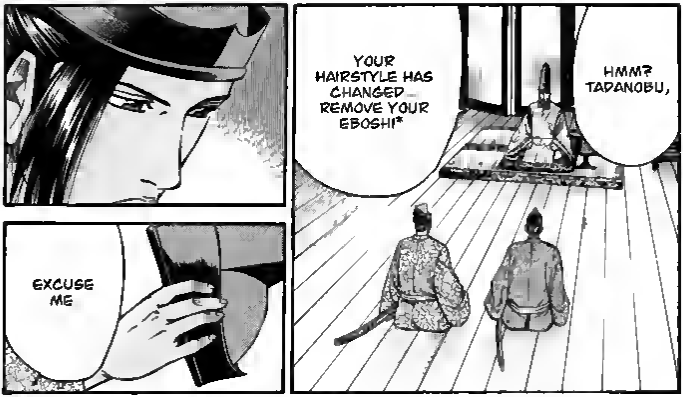
Chapter 56
Kunihira
and
Yasuhira

HIRAIZUMI
MANSION

AND SO, THROUGH YOSHITSUNE-SAMA'S PLANS, WE WERE ABLE TO SUPPRESS BOTH KUROIWA AND THE TIGER.
WE BELIEVE WE WERE SAVED THANKS TO HIM.

I SEE
TO THINK THAT YOSHITSUNE-DONO HAS ACCOMPLISHED ALL THAT IN THE SHORT TIME HE'S BEEN IN OSHU...



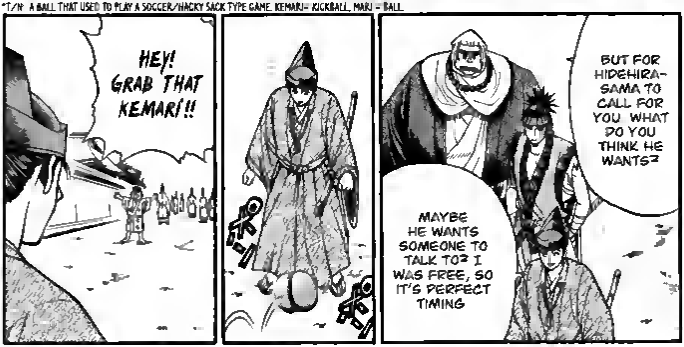
*T/N: A TRADITIONAL JAPANESE HEADGEAR USUALLY WORN BY MALE NOBLES.

AND WITH THAT WOUND ON YOUR FACE, YOU'VE BECOME QUITE THE MAN.
MEANS YOU FINALLY FEEL YOU'VE BECOME YOUR OWN MAN, AND THAT YOU'VE OFFICIALLY ENTERED ADULTHOOD, CORRECT?
TYING YOUR BUN UP AND ONLY PUTTING HALF YOUR FORE-LOCKS UP...
I'M SURE THAT IS ALSO TIED TO THE INCIDENT WITH YOSHITSUNE-DONO
...
IT WAS SIMPLY A WHIM OF MINE.
I'M SURE YOU'RE TIRED GO REST NOW
I AP-PRECIATE THE RE-PORT
YES BY YOUR LEAVE.
フー

AS YOU SAID, HE IS A REMARKABLE ONE!
TO THINK THAT YOSHITSUNE-DONO WOULD RESOLVE
THE QUARREL WHICH I COULD NOT
...
HOW DULL...
THAT A CHILD OF ABOUT 16 CAN ACCOMPLISH SO MUCH
HE'S A BIT TOO CAPABLE IT'S DULL
D-DULL? DO YOU MEAN YOSHITSUNE?
EH?

BY WHICH YOU MEAN?
IT'S DIFFICULT TO BELIEVE UNTIL I SEE HIM ACCOMPLISH SUCH THINGS
OR RATHER...
MAYBE I SHOULD HAVE A LITTLE FUN WITH HIM!!
HUH?

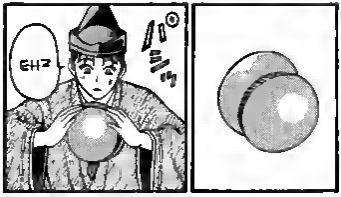
*T/N: A BALL THAT USED TO PLAY A SOCCER/HACKY SACK TYPE GAME. KEMARI= KICKBALL, MARI = BALL.


HEY! GRAB THAT KEMARI!!
BUT FOR HIDEHIRA-SAMA TO CALL FOR YOU WHAT DO YOU THINK HE WANTS?
MAYBE HE WANTS SOMEONE TO TALK TO? I WAS FREE, SO IT'S PERFECT TIMING

HERE I GO!!
ALL RIGHT—
AH!
WAH!
MOO!
AHH.
WHOA! WHOA!
H-HOLD THE CARRIAGE UP!!

UGH!
WAS IT YOU, YOU BRAT?!!
LOOK HERE, WHO'S RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS?!!
WHOA!
WHOA!
I KICKED THE BALL!!
N-NO, IT WASN'T!!
WAIT, WAIT!!
Eek...
WHOSE CARRIAGE DO YOU THINK THIS IS?!!
SUCH IMPUDENCE!!

WH-WHOSE BALL IS THIS?


EH?

PHEW

WAH... HE LOOKS PRETTY IMPORTANT WITH THOSE CLOTHES THIS IS BAD...
I-I'm sorry for kicking it to a weird spot...

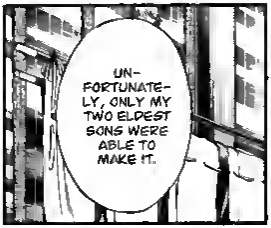
GOOD THING THIS WAS AN OX CART. IF IT WERE A HORSE, IT MIGHT HAVE HURT THE KIDS.
GO PLAY IN A LESS CROWDED AREA AND BE CAREFUL!
Okay.
Q-
ALL RIGHT, LET'S GO.
YES!

WHAT A BIG-HEARTED PERSON...
HE LOOKED LIKE HE WAS PRETTY IMPORTANT
YEAH
THAT WAS CLOSE YOU WOULDN'T HAVE HAD ANY EXCUSES IF YOU WERE PUNISHED FOR THAT
THAT PERSON
I WONDER WHO HE IS...
GO GET IT!!
AHH~
THIS GUY'S GOT A SMALL HEART
D-Did you call me a tiny old man, you brat?!
HEY, I GOT YELLED AT BECAUSE OF YOU
GIVE ME MY BALL BACK, TINY OLD MAN!!

MAN, THIS PLACE SORT OF MAKES ME NERVOUS.
IT'S A SOLEMN PLACE.
DON'T WORRY, WE JUST CAME TO CHAT.
HIRAIZUMI MANSION
YOSHITSUNE-SAMA, THIS WAY
OKAY.
HMM?

AH!!
OHH
SO YOU TWO HAVE MET?
MY, MY, SO YOU WERE YOSHITSUNE-DONO!!
YOU'RE THE ONE FROM EARLIER!!
SO HE WAS HIDEHIRA-SAMA'S SON!!
SECOND SON...
YOSHI-TSUNE-DONO, THAT IS MY SECOND SON, YASUHIRA
THE OX FOR MY CART WAS STARTLED BY THE BALL YOSHITSUNE-DONO WAS PLAYING WITH EARLIER
OHH

PLEASED TO MEET YOUR ACQUAINTANCE!!
I AM FUJIWARA NO YASUHIRA.
HAHAHA HAHAHA!
I'M GLAD I DIDN'T GIVE YOU SOME STRANGE PUNISHMENT WITHOUT KNOWING IT WAS YOU, YOSHITSUNE-DONO!
I'M MINAMOTO NO YOSHI-TSUNE!!
PLEASE FORGIVE ME FOR EARLIER.
I-I'm sorry...
HIS BIG HEART EARLIER..
AND HIS CHEERFUL LAUGHTER. HE'S A LIKEABLE PERSON.



*T/N: ABOUT 180CM OR ABOUT 5'11"

I'M KUNIHIRA
Huh? He won't even look me in the eyes
Did I do something rude...?
FATHER,
I WILL TAKE MY LEAVE NOW
IS THAT ALL RIGHT?
HUH?

IS THAT NOT RUDE?!!
YOSHITSUNE-DONO HAS JUST ARRIVED!
BROTHER!!
SPREADING IT TO A GUEST WOULD CAUSE HIM TROUBLE.
BESIDES, I'M FEELING ILL
WE HAVE EXCHANGED OUR GREETINGS.
EXCUSE ME.
VERY WELL, KUNIHIRA GO HOME AND RECUPERATE.
STOP IT, YASUHIRA.
BUT, BROTHER!!
UGH

NO, NO, IT ISN'T YOUR FAULT, YOSHITSUNE-DONO
U-UMM, DID I MAYBE DO SOMETHING RUDE?
HE HATES SOCIALIZING.
HE SIMPLE FEIGNED ILLNESS TO DISAPPEAR.
F-Feigned illness?
THAT IS MY BROTHER KUNIHIRA'S PERSONALITY
HE HAS A DARK DISPOSITION AND HE'S BAD AT SOCIALIZING, SO HE DOESN'T HAVE ANY FRIENDS
I'M SO EMBARRAS-SED.
IS THAT SO...?

YES..
DON'T BE SO HARD ON KUNIHIRA. EVERYONE HAS THEIR STRENGTHS AND WEAK-NESSES.
NOW, NOW, YASUHIRA.
RIGHT, BENKEI?
I DON'T REALLY MIND. THERE ARE A LOT OF PEOPLE LIKE THAT.
REALLY?
HUH?
THE ELDEST IS A BIT TROUBLE-SOME. I CAN'T DEAL WITH THOSE TYPES.
NOW, YOSHI-TSUNE-DONO, PLEASE REGALE YASUHIRA WITH STORIES OF THE CAPITAL.
O-OKAY..
HMM- YOU THINK?
I-I am also like that..

HAHAHA, I SEE SEEING THAT BUDDHIST STATUE FOR THE FIRST TIME MIGHT STARTLE YOU.
YES, I WAS SO STARTLED, I FELL INTO THE RIVER.
HAHA HA...
OH NO!!
HUH?

YOSHITSUNE-DONO, I'M SORRY,
BUT COULD RUN AN ERRAND FOR ME?
HOW FORGET-FUL OF ME
I FORGOT TO ASK KUNIHIRA FOR A FAVOR
FROM KUNIHIRA-DONO?
THERE IS A HORSE NAMED TAKEDATEGURO AMONG THE ONES HE RAISES
WOULD YOU MIND BORROWING TAKEDATEGURO AND BRINGING HIM TOMORROW?

KUNIHIRA-DONO'S HORSE?
WELL, I DON'T REALLY MIND
T-TAKEDA-TEGURO?!!
B-BUT, FATHER!
SETTLE DOWN, YASUHIRA!!
?
W-Well, that is...
THEN WILL YOU GO BRING HIM?

THEN, YOSHITSUNE-DONO, PLEASE BRING THE HORSE WITH YOU TOMORROW
HOWEVER, DO NOT MENTION IT IS FOR ME
I WANT YOU TO SAY IT'S FOR YOU, YOSHITSUNE-DONO.
CAN YOU DO THAT FOR ME?
HMM... I DON'T REALLY GET IT. IT WOULD BE A DIFFERENT STORY IF IT WERE MONEY...
BUT BORROWING A HORSE, I CAN DO
?
O-OKAY...
THEN IT'S A PROMISE!!

WHAT IS FATHER THINKING EXACTLY?!
BUT WHY ASK YOSHITSUNE-SAMA...?
HE SHOULD HAVE ANY NUMBER OF SERVANTS
WHY NOT? IT'S NOT THAT BIG A DEAL. LET'S JUST DO IT.
*T/N "GREAT/BIG SOUTHERN GATE"
HE SAID KUNIHIRA-DONO'S MANSION IS ON THE WESTERN SIDE OF THE NANDAIMON*, SO IT SHOULD BE AROUND HERE...
AH, ISN'T THIS IT?
IT'S THE FINEST LOOKING MANSION AROUND HERE.

HE'S OUT RIDING ON THE MOUNTAIN HE USUALLY GOES TO...
KUNIHIRA-SAMA?
WHERE IS THAT MOUNTAIN?
.....
OUT RIDING?
WHAT A PRICK!!
SO HE WAS FEIGNING ILLNESS AFTER ALL...
GRASS
RUSTLE

SO YOU WERE OUT HERE
IT'S YOSHITSUNE WE JUST MET EARLIER...
BUT I'VE COME TO SEE YOU AGAIN.
WHAT BUSINESS DO YOU HAVE?
AH.. YES.
UMM...
ACTUAL-LY,
スタスタスタ
HUH?
WHAT'S WITH THAT ATTITUDE OF HIS?!!
HMM~

BRR!

...
EVEN ITS COAT IS SO NICE! MAGNIFI-CENT!!
WOW, THAT'S AN IMPRESSIVE HORSE!!
THIS IS TAKE-DATEGURO
WOW!! I'VE NEVER SEEN SUCH A BIG HORSE!!
HE'S FOUR SHAKU, NINE SUN*
SO THIS IS TAKEDA-TEGURO?! HE'S HUGE!
HE SMILED
HE...

*T/N: ABOUT 148CM, 4.8 FEET, OR 14.5 HANDS. THE NATIVE JAPANESE HORSES (SUCH AS THE KISO PONY) WERE SMALLER THAN EUROPEAN OR AMERICAN HORSES.

AND WOW! WITH YOUR IMPRESSIVE PHYSIQUE, KUNIHIRA-DONO
HE MUST HAVE CONSIDERABLE STRENGTH
EVEN AFTER THREE ROUNDS TRIPS, HE DOESN'T BREAK A SWEAT.
HE LETS ME RIDE HIM FROM THE MANSION TO THIS MOUNTAIN.
THAT GUY SURE CAN TALK WHEN IT COMES TO HIS HORSE.
HE MUST BE REALLY PROUD OF IT...
SO, YOSHITSUNE-DONO
YES?
WHAT BRINGS YOU ALL THIS WAY?
TAKEDATEGURO IS MY ONE AND ONLY FRIEND
YOU SHOULD GET ALONG WITH YASUHIRA RATHER THAN MYSELF.
HE IS THE HEIR WHO WILL INHERIT OSHU.

HE IS THE CHILD OF THE LEGAL WIFE
AREN'T YOU THE ELDEST, KUNIHIRA-DONO?
HUH? BUT,
A FAVOR?
A-ACTUALLY, I HAD A FAVOR TO ASK YOU, KUNIHIRA-DONO...
AH
KUNIHIRA-DONO IS THE CONCUBINE'S
UMM, I'D LIKE TO BORROW TAKEDATE-GURO,
FOR A DAY TOMORROW.
カッ

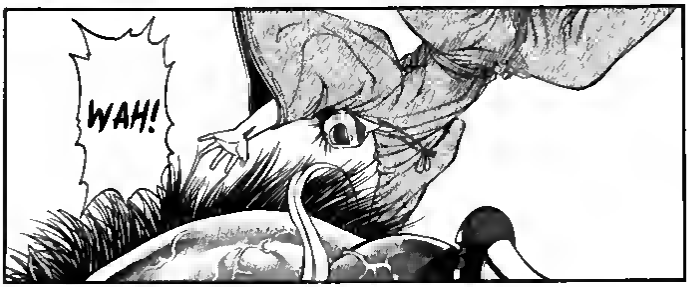
YOU MUST BE JOKING!!
EH?
Ugh...
TAKEDA-TEGURO IS NOT SOME THING...
TO BE SO EASILY LENT AND BORROWED!
LEAVE!!
HEY, BASTARD, DON'T THINK YOU'LL GET OFF SCOT-FREE AFTER SPEAKING SO RUDELY TO A NOBLE GENJI!!
MORI-SAN, WAIT, WAIT.

I'LL TREAT HIM WELL, SO PLEASE, JUST ONE DAY.
K-KUNIHIRA-DONO
But I can't break my promise with Hidehira-sama!!
This is bad.
If he treasures him this much, it's going to be tough borrowing him.
YOU ARE PERSIS-TENT.
WHAT DO YOU PLAN TO USE HIM FOR?
I can't mention Hidehira-sama's name...
AH WELL...
I JUST WANT TO TRY RIDING HIM FOR A DAY
I WANT TO GET TO KNOW TAKEDATEGURO, THE MOST FAMOUS HORSE IN ALL OF OSHU!!
I-I WON'T GIVE UP!!

HUH?
YOU DON'T MIND?
THEN TRY RIDING HIM
...
THE ONE TO DECIDE IS TAKEDATE-GURO
THEN, EXCUSE ME.
I'M CONFIDENT IN RIDING HORSES, SO I JUST NEED TO GET ON!!
HEY, HE'S MORE UNDERSTANDING THAN I THOUGHT!!
THERE

NEIGH!
SNORT
SNORT
WAH!

NEIGH
NEIGH


WAH!

OWW!!
YOU OKAY?!
YOSHI-TSUNE-SAMA!
HE KNOWS IT'S A DIFFERENT PERSON FROM THE BODY WEIGHT
BRR
TAKE-DATEGIRO WON'T ALLOW ANYONE OTHER THAN MYSELF TO RIDE HIM.
IT'S FUTILE!!

HAA!!
Ugh~
Damn it~

I BET HIDEHIRA-SAMA GAVE ME A NEAR IMPOSSIBLE TASK AS A PRANK
INDEED... I THOUGHT IT WAS STRANGE THAT HE SAID NOT TO MENTION HIS NAME.

I HEARD THIS FROM AN OLD LADY IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD, BUT IT SEEMS THE PEOPLE IN THE HOUSE USED TO ADORE KUNIHIRA, BUT THEY CHANGED THEIR TUNE AFTER HIDEHIRA'S WIFE BORE YASUHIRA.
BUT IF I DON'T BRING TAKEDATEGURO TOMORROW, IT'LL BE MY LOSS. THAT WOULD BE FRUSTRATING.
HOW DO I DO THIS...?
YASUHIRA WAS GREATLY PRAISED AS THE HEIR, AND KUNIHIRA, THE CONCUBINE'S SON, APPARENTLY HOLED UP AND BECAME AN ISOLATED CHILD WITH ONLY THE HORSE AS HIS FRIEND...
I SHOULD BE ABLE TO MANAGE SOMETHING IF I CAN GET THAT HORSE ACCUSTOMED TO ME.

WAIT, WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
WELL, I THOUGHT UP A GOOD PLAN LIKE THIS LAST TIME
MUST BE TOUGH...
YOU DON'T HAVE TIME TO GET HIM USED TO YOU BY TOMORROW
IT'S JUST IMPOSSIBLE THIS TIME
HMM...
Hmm
HMM
FRRRRRT!

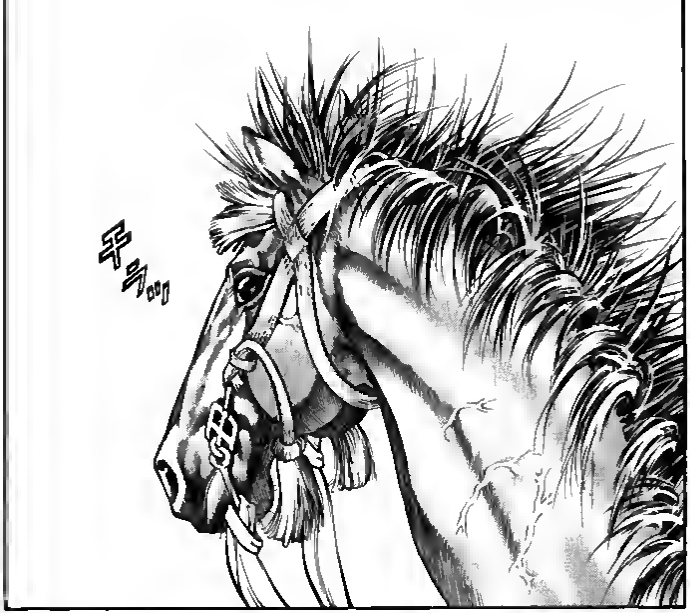
WHAT ARE YOU DOING COMING UP WITH GAS INSTEAD OF A PLAN?!!
THAT REEKS, YOU!
WAH, WHAT ARE YOU DOING FARTING?!!
!!!
THAT'S IT!!
A FART?

YOU'RE BACK?
HMM?
GIVE IT UP.
IT'S FUTILE.
KUNIHIRA-DONO, IF I'M ABLE TO SUC-CESSFULLY RIDE TAKEDA-TEGURO
IF I CAN'T RIDE HIM, I WILL GIVE UP
CAN I HAVE YOU LEND HIM TO ME FOR THE DAY?

ゴクッ
JUST ONCE MORE.
SIR
RELAX AND LET ME RIDE YOU.
YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE AFRAID.

ピィ…
ワィ…
ワィ…
What's this? Takadateguro is showing interest?!
HUH?
ﾌﾞﾙﾙﾙ…

IS IT GOING TO BUCK?!
IS...
Throw him off, Takeda-teguro!!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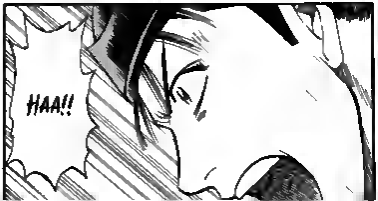
WH-WHAT?! HE ACCEPTED SOMEONE OTHER THAN MYSELF?!!

THERE, GOOD BOY. YOU UNDER-STAND!
PAT
PAT


HAA!!

HAA!!

!!
!!
JUMP!!

R-RIDICULOUS... TO THINK SOMEONE OTHER THAN I CAN CONTROL HIM SO NATURALLY!!

スリ
サッ
サッ
BRR
Takedateguro rejected you so vehemently yesterday, so why so suddenly?
HOW?!
This is a first...
H-How?
KUNIHIRA-DONO
HE REALLY IS A FINE HORSE...

I'M SORRY THE TRUTH IS, I CHEATED A BIT...
CHEATED?
I BORROWED THIS FROM YOUR MANSION WHILE ON THE WAY HERE TODAY
WH-WHAT?
THIS
?
TH-
THIS IS!!

DUNG.
YES, IT'S TAKEDATEGURO'S,

SO I THOUGHT HE WOULDN'T SEE SOMEONE AS AN ENEMY IF THEY HAD THE SAME SMELL AS HIM
A HORSE'S EARS AND NOSE ARE MORE DEVELOPED AND SENSITIVE THAN HUMANS.

It's kind of dirty, but this was the only way, so...

You should've said something sooner~
...
AND BROUGHT IT WITH YOU, COULDN'T YOU?
YOU DIDN'T HAVE TO RUB IT ON YOURSELF. YOU COULD'VE WRAPPED IT IN CLOTH
AH!
WH-WHAT A GUY... TO THINK HE WOULD GET TAKEDATEGURO ACCUSTOMED TO HIM SO EASILY WITH SUCH A METHOD...
THIS PERSON HAS SUCH SAGACITY...
WHAT'S MORE AMAZING
IS THAT HE'S A NOBLE GENJI...
WHO COULD EASILY HAVE BEEN IN THE SAME POSITION AS THE CURRENT HEIKE.
AND TO THINK THAT SUCH A PERSON,
WOULD BE CAPABLE OF RUBBING HORSE DUNG ON HIS OWN BODY JUST TO BORROW A HORSE...
E-Even the rural samurai of Oshu...
Wouldn't be able to do that...

THIS PERSON...
IS OF EXTRAORDINARY CALIBER!!
YOSHITSUNE-DONG...
I AM IMPRESSED...
PLEASE TAKE HIM WITH YOU...

I WILL TREAT HIM WELL AND RETURN HIM BY TOMORROW, SO PLEASE REST ASSURED!
THANK YOU VERY MUCH.
YES!!
BECAUSE IT IS AN HONOR FOR TAKEDATEGURO TO BE RIDDEN BY YOU.
NO, NO, PLEASE RIDE HIM FOR AS MANY DAYS AS YOU PLEASE.

HIRAIZUMI MANSION
II-IIO...

WITH TAKEDATE-GURO.
I HAVE COME...

OHH, HEITA!
YASU-HIRA-SAMA.

DID YOU SEE? HE WASN'T ABLE TO BORROW HIM YESTERDAY, SO HOW DID HE DO IT TODAY?
y-yes, that is...

H-HOW EXACTLY?!
EVEN IF I WERE TO ASK KUNIHIRA, IT WOULD BE QUESTIONABLE WHETHER OR NOT HE WOULD AGREE, AND YET YOSHITSUNE-DONO...!

WHAT?! HORSE DUNG?!!
HIDEHIRA-SAMA!
THAT WAS QUITE THE PRANK...
That troubled heart of Kunihira's. And while knowing it was just a prank of mine.
The fact that he borrowed Takedateguro means that he opened up Kunihira's heart.

SORRY, SORRY, IT WAS A JOKE! FORGIVE ME!
SO YOU SAW RIGHT THROUGH ME!
HAHAHA!
HAHAHA!
PFFT.
IT'S MY LOSS!!
BRILLIANT, YOSHITSUNE-DONO!

Yoshi-
tsune,
is it.
Minamoto
no
WE HAVE QUITE AN INTERESTING GUY HERE!!
IT'S NOT JUST HIS LINEAGE
AND ALL THREE STARTED OFF WITH A GOOD IMPRESSION OF EACH OTHER.
KUNIHIRA, YASUHIRA, AND YOSHITSUNE. THEY, WHO HELD EACH OTHER'S FUTURES IN THEIR HANDS, MET TOGETHER HERE.
CHAPTER 56 END

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SHANA OH YOSHITSUNE

by SAWADA Hirofumi / 沢田 ひろふみ

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HANDLE IT WITH CARE!!
DON'T DROP THE CARGO!
PRINCESS KOYOU, IT IS ALMOST TIME TO GO EXCHANGE GREETINGS.
ALL RIGHT.
SO THIS IS THE COUNTRY THEY CALL WA*.

*T/N: AN OLD CHINESE NAME FOR JAPAN.

Chapter 57
Benkei's Love (Part 1)

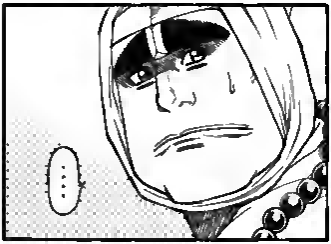
HIRAIZUMI MANSION
I WONDERED WHAT HE'D GIVE YOU WHEN HE SAID HE'D THANK YOU...
FOR BORROWING KUNIHIRA'S HORSE FIVE DAYS AGO.
AND THIS IS IT?
IT'S JUST A VASE
YOU WANT SOMETHING LIKE THIS?
WHY NOT? BESIDES, IT ALLOWED ME TO GET CLOSER TO KUNIHIRA-DONO AND YASUHIRA-DONO...

O-OKAY
DON'T DROP IT, OKAY? HOLD IT NICE AND TIGHT.
BENKEI, APPARENTLY THAT'S A NICE VASE CALLED WHITE PORCELAIN OR SOMETHING.

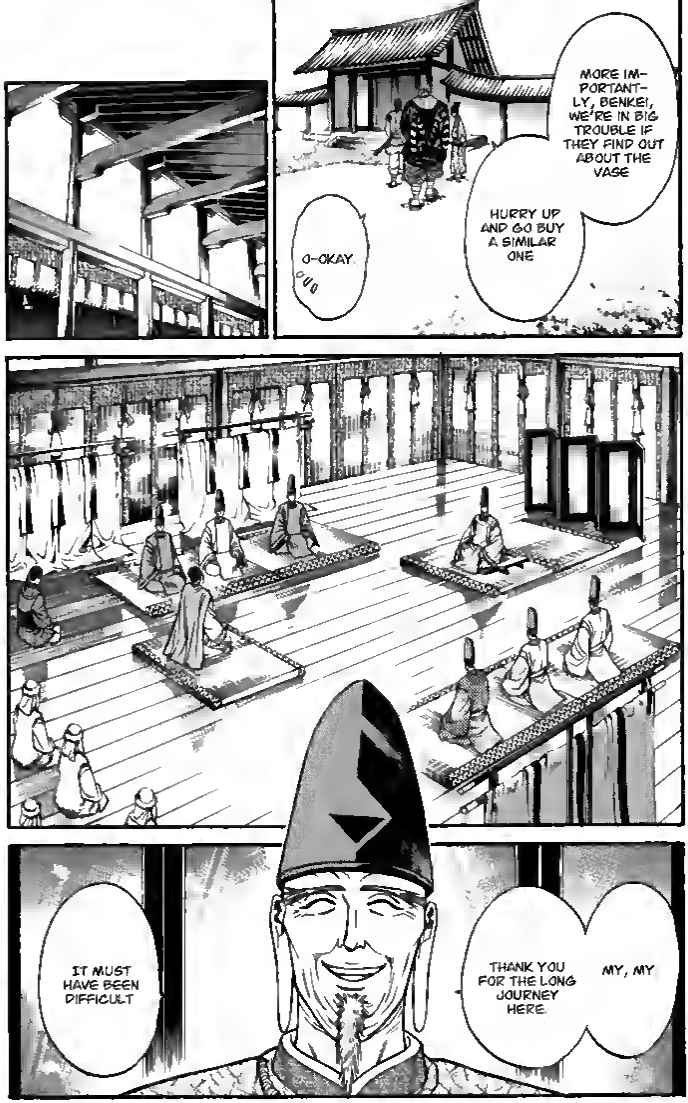
WH-WHAT DO I DO! IT WAS A GIFT, TOO!!
I-I'm sorry.
WHY DID YOU PUT SO MUCH STRENGTH INTO IT! LOOK, IT BROKE!!
AH-HEY!
HMM?
AH?

ナリ
ナリ
ナリ

UGH.



*T/N: APPROXIMATELY 180CM OR JUST UNDER SIX FEET TALL.

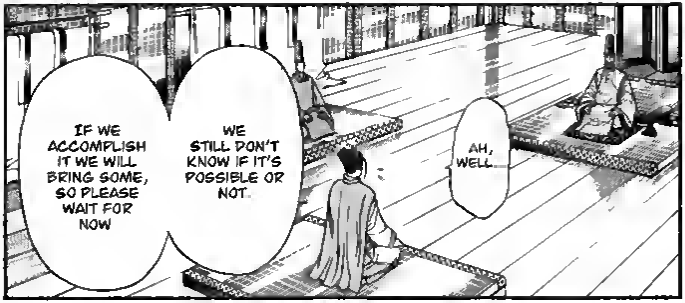

MORE IMPORTANTLY, BENKEI, WE'RE IN BIG TROUBLE IF THEY FIND OUT ABOUT THE VASE
HURRY UP AND GO BUY A SIMILAR ONE
O-OKAY.
IT MUST HAVE BEEN DIFFICULT
THANK YOU FOR THE LONG JOURNEY HERE.
MY, MY

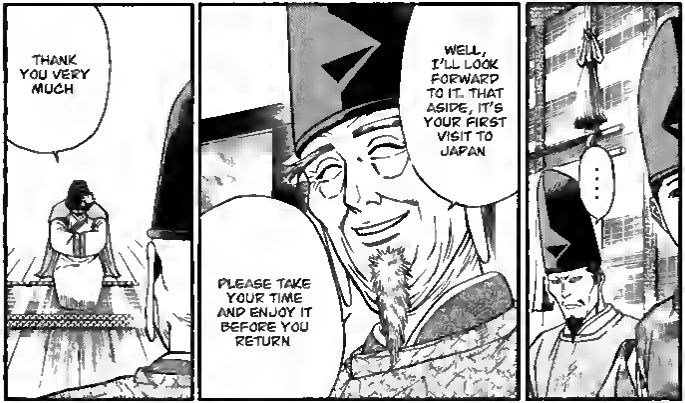
*T/N REFERRING TO THE JIN DYNASTY IN CHINA (1115 1234)

I HAVE HEARD ABOUT YOU FROM YOUR FATHER
HE WAS WORRIED, SAYING HIS DAUGHTER DID NOT WANT TO MARRY
BUT I HEAR YOUR WEDDING CEREMONY WAS DECIDED AS OF LATE
...
HAHAHA
THAT'S A JOYOUS OCCASION!!
I FINALLY FOUND A GOOD PERSON.

EAGLE FEATHERS
SEAL FURS
AND SONG COINS
NOW THEN, WE HAVE BROUGHT OVER THE ITEMS ACCORDING TO THE INVENTORY THIS TIME AS WELL
PLEASE CONFIRM THE MAIN ITEMS
OUR SILK, LINENS, AND OTHER ITEMS HAVE ALL BEEN TRANSPORTED TO PORT
HMM, THEY ARE FINE PRODUCTS
SHIFT
SHIFT
WE BROUGHT A PORTION OF IT, SO PLEASE TAKE A LOOK
AND THIS

WHAT DO YOU PLAN TO USE IT FOR?
BUT, THIS SULFUR POWDER...
THIS IS FINE SULFUR
INDEED
WE ARE DEVISING FLAMMABLE SAND
PRINCESS!!
AH...
FLAM-MABLE SAND?

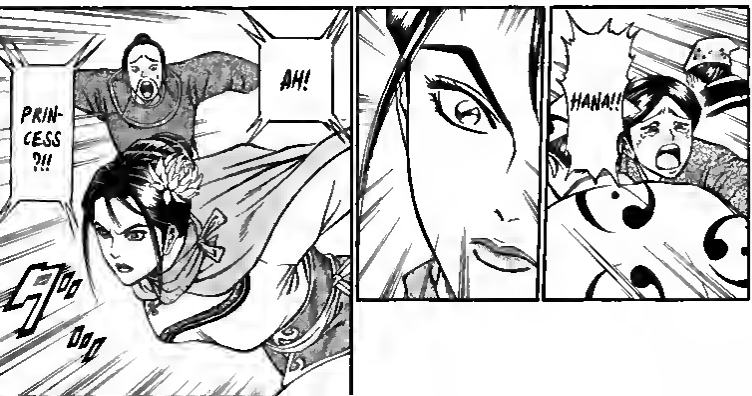

AH, WELL...
WE STILL DON'T KNOW IF IT'S POSSIBLE OR NOT.
IF WE ACCOMPLISH IT WE WILL BRING SOME, SO PLEASE WAIT FOR NOW


THANK YOU VERY MUCH
WELL, I'LL LOOK FORWARD TO IT. THAT ASIDE, IT'S YOUR FIRST VISIT TO JAPAN
PLEASE TAKE YOUR TIME AND ENJOY IT BEFORE YOU RETURN
....

SH-SHE'S HUGE
PRINCES KOYOU, YOU WILL TIRE YOURSELF WHY NOT RIDE A HORSE?
NO NEED!! I WISH TO SEE THIS TOWN OF WA.

LOOK.
THE BUILDINGS ARE SMALL, BUT IS THIS NOT A BEAUTIFUL TOWN?
R-RUN FOR IT-!!
IT'S A RUNAWAY HORSE!!
HMM?

WAHH!
KYAHH!
WAHHH!


AH!
PRIN-CESS ?!!
HANA!!

AH- NO, THEY CAN'T GET AWAY!!

GRR!!

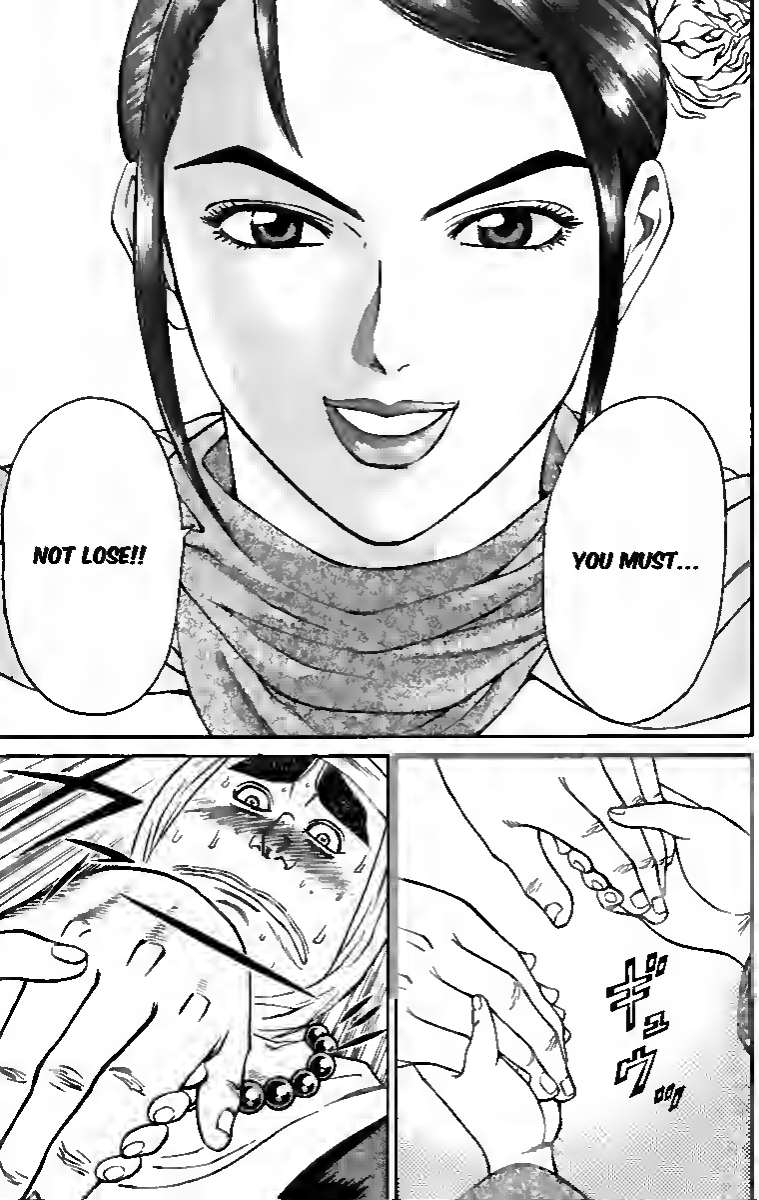
HMPH!!
HAHA!!
HAA
HAA
HAA
NOW, HOLD THE HORSE DOWN!!
W-WOW, HE TOSSED THE HORSE ASIDE!!

THANK you so much!!
THANK you so much!!
Ah, no
THANK you so much!!
THANK you so much!!
WHEN you saved me?
WHY are you apologizing...
THANK you so much!!
I'm sorry...
N-No...
I-I'm sorry...
Ah...
Well...

HAA
HAA
HAA
スッ
PRIN-
CESS?
PRINCESS KOYOU, ARE YOU ALL RIGHT? ARE YOU HURT?!
スッ
No need... To thank me, so...
Th-There's

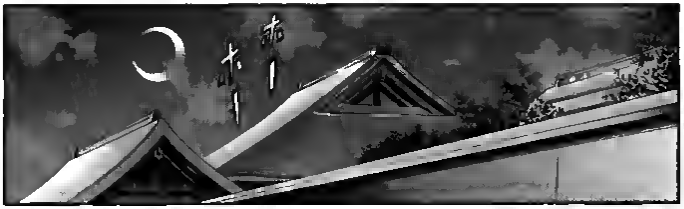
SHOW ME YOUR HANDS.
EH?
?
THIS STRENGTH
!!?

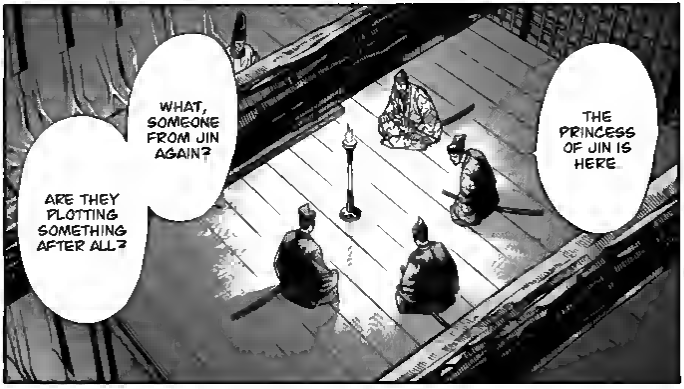
IT MUST HAVE BEEN DIFFICULT...
EH?
ARE YOU HAPPY NOW?

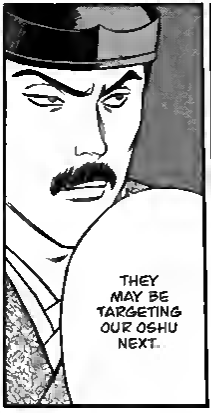

NOT LOSE!!
YOU MUST...
ギュッ

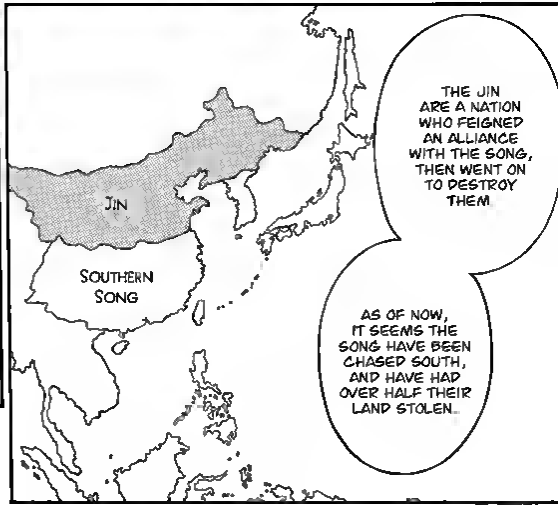
IT WAS LIKE SHE SAW ALL THE WAY THROUGH ME...!
WH-WHY?! WE'VE NEVER EVEN TALKED BEFORE.

WHO IS SHE EXACTLY?!
TH-THAT PERSON
ドキ ドキ ドキ ドキ ドキ
PRINCESS KOYOU, SUCH RECKLESS-NESS!!
THAT ALMOST TURNED INTO A DIS-ASTER!!
I AM AWARE MY BODY JUST MOVED...
MY APOLO-GIES




WHAT, SOMEONE FROM JIN AGAIN?
ARE THEY PLOTTING SOMETHING AFTER ALL?
THE PRINCESS OF JIN IS HERE.


THEY MAY BE TARGETING OUR OSHU NEXT.

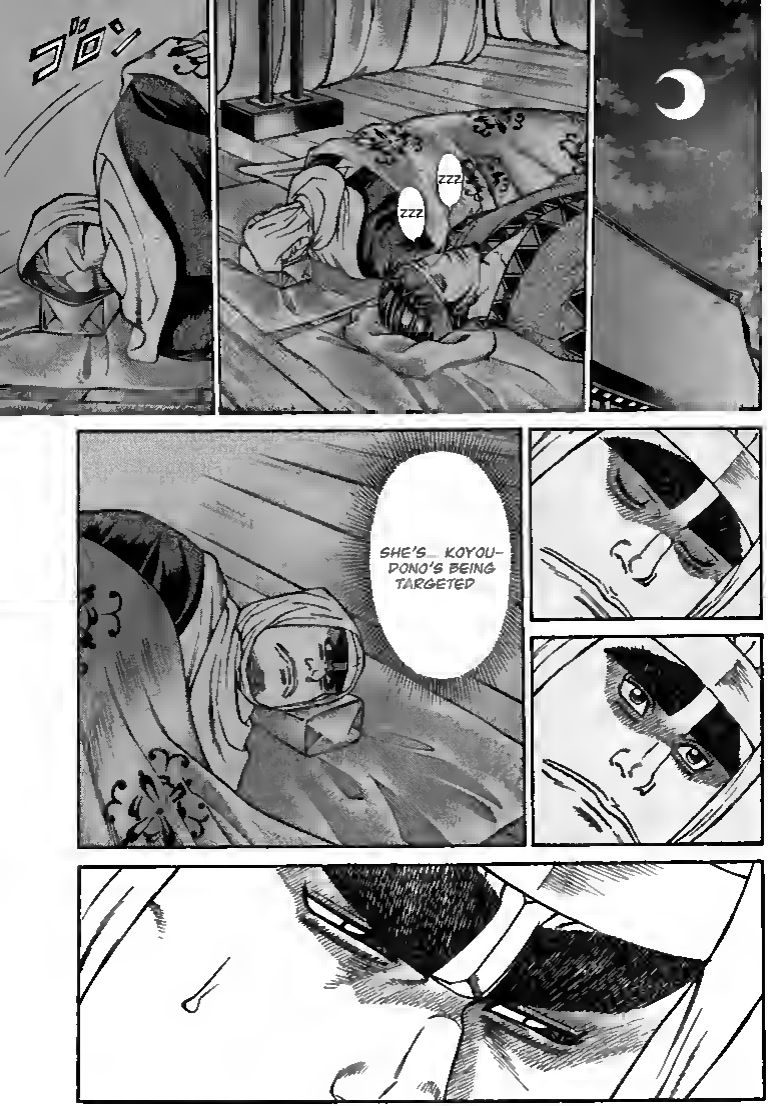

JIN
SOUTHERN SONG
THE JIN ARE A NATION WHO FEIGNED AN ALLIANCE WITH THE SONG, THEN WENT ON TO DESTROY THEM.
AS OF NOW, IT SEEMS THE SONG HAVE BEEN CHASED SOUTH, AND HAVE HAD OVER HALF THEIR LAND STOLEN.

HUH?
SULFUR...
DO YOU THINK THEY PLAN TO USE THAT AS A TOOL FOR WAR?!
FLAMMABLE SAND?!!
IT SEEMS THEY'RE MAKING FLAMMABLE SAND.
THEY WANTED SULFUR.
WE MUST PROTECT OSHU WITH OUR OWN TWO HANDS!!
IT IS CERTAIN!! WE CAN NO LONGER ALLOW THE JIN TO CONTINUE WITH THEIR PLOT!!
AGREED!!
YES, WE MUST!!
WE MUST DEFEAT THE FOREIGNERS!!

FUJIWARA NO MOTONARI'S MANSION
I HEARD ABOUT IT
YOU WERE SUPPOSED TO GO BUY A VASE, BUT YOU STOPPED A RUNAWAY HORSE...
AND YOU ENDED UP BECOMING A CELEBRITY, BENKEI-KUN
I-I'M SORRY THOSE WEREN'T MY INTENTIONS...
BUT THAT WAS RECKLESS OF YOU IF YOU HAD MADE ONE MISTAKE, THINGS WOULD'VE GOTTEN UGLY
I thought the child was in danger, and by the time I realized, I was grabbing the horse...
YOU SAVED THE PRINCESS OF THE GREAT JIN COUNTRY TOO, RIGHT?
EH?
Th-That person
Who is she?!

YOU DIDN'T KNOW?
SHE'S STAYING IN A MANSION IN THE NORTHERN AREA.
SEEMS SHE'S THE DAUGHTER OF A NOBLE IN A COUNTRY BIGGER THAN JAPAN, CALLED THE GREAT JIN
I HEAR HER NAME'S KOYOU OR SOMETHING
Koyou-dono
A PERSON OF SUCH HIGH STATUS
N-No...
DIDN'T YOU GET SOME AMAZING REWARD?
YOU SAVED AN IMPORTANT PRINCESS
WELL, I LIKE HOW YOU DON'T ACT BASED ON GAINS OR LOSSES, BENKEI
I'M JUST GLAD THAT YOU CAME OUT SAFE AND SOUND
Rather than a reward...

Thank you very much
Y-yes
WHAT?!
I FEEL LIKE THAT'S SOMETHING YOU SHOULDN'T BE SAYING.
DON'T BE RECK-LESS, YOU SAY ...
IT WOULD BE TROUBLESOME IF YOU SUDDENLY DIED AND DISAPPEARED!
BUT DON'T BE SO RECKLESS.
IT'S SEEMS THERE'S UNREST FROM PEOPLE WHO SEE THE GREAT JIN AS AN ENEMY
JUST RUMORS THOUGH.
THERE ARE RUMORS SHE'S BEING TARGETED...
BUT THAT PRINCESS MIGHT HAVE IT ROUGH, TOO
TARGETED?

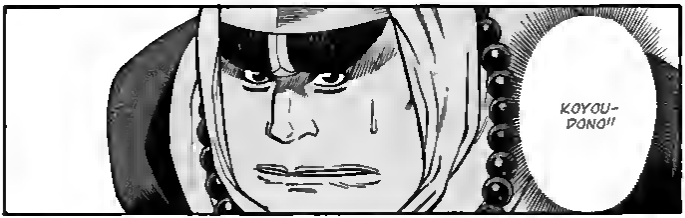

ゴゼン
ZZZ
ZZZZ
SHE'S... KOYOU-DONO'S BEING TARGETED

GREAT
INN
LODGING
NORTHERN
AREA
MANSION
I WILL
TAKE DOWN
ANYONE
SUSPICIOUS!!

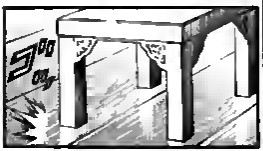
シーン
MM?
NYAA
PHEW
NOTHING OUT OF THE ORDINARY FOR NOW

SO THEY WERE HIDING!!
OH NO!
WHAT?!
I WILL PUNISH YOU!!
YOU DOGS!
PEOPLE OF THE JIN?!
TH-THIS LANGUAGE!
EH?

THUD
Ugh
!!

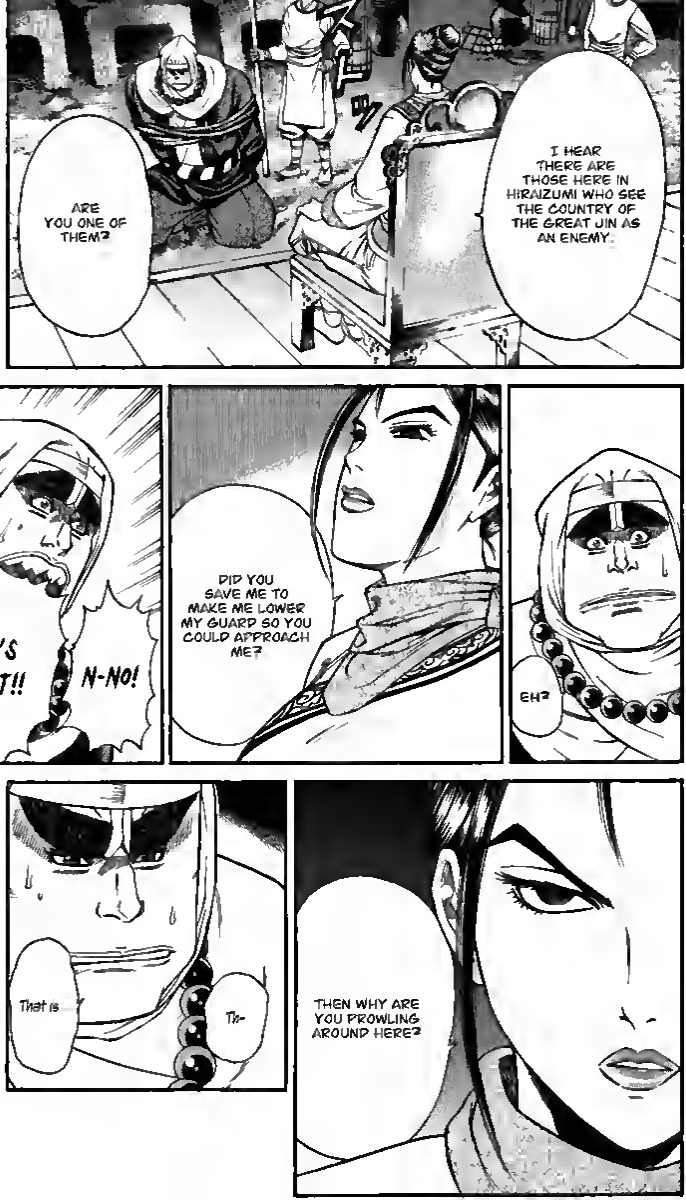

KOYOU-DONO!!

ALL RIGHT
YOU, YOU UNDERSTAND THE WA LANGUAGE, SO INTERPRET FOR EVERYONE.



I WILL QUESTION HIM IN THE WA LANGUAGE
UNDER-STOOD

THIS ONE WAS SNOOPING AROUND THE MANSION WITH WEAPON IN HAND.


I HEAR THERE ARE THOSE HERE IN HIRAIZUMI WHO SEE THE COUNTRY OF THE GREAT JIN AS AN ENEMY.
ARE YOU ONE OF THEM?
DID YOU SAVE ME TO MAKE ME LOWER MY GUARD SO YOU COULD APPROACH ME?
EH?
N-NO!
THAT'S NOT IT!!
That is...
Th-
THEN WHY ARE YOU PROWLING AROUND HERE?

Ugh...
SPIT IT OUT!!
A MONK?
THIS ONE'S APPEARANCE IS THAT OF A WA MONK.
I DIDN'T!!
N-NO!!
I CAME TO PROTECT YOU...
TO APPROACH AND KILL ME?
DID YOU PUT ON THE GUISE OF A MONK,

THEN, WHEN DID YOU BECOME A MONK?
I ENTERED THE TEMPLE WHEN I WAS SO YOUNG
I DON'T REMEMBER
THEN, DID YOU ASSOCIATE WITH EVIL MONKS OF THAT TEMPLE TO MAKE MISCHIEF?
N...
No...

MON-STER!!
DEMON CHILD!!
DEMON CHILD!!
I... DIDN'T...
HAVE A SINGLE FRIEND...

YOU HAVE ENOUGH STRENGTH IN THOSE HANDS TO TERRIFY THOSE AROUND YOU AND MANIPULATE THEM!!
WH-WHY IS THAT? YOU HAVE STRENGTH, DO YOU NOT?

WHAT?

AND, EVEN IF I WANTED TO USE MY STRENGTH...

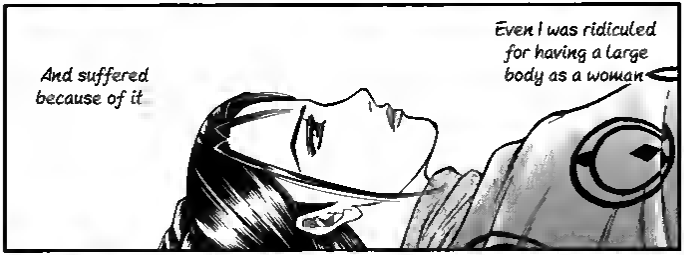
I-I don't like... To scare people...

FUJIWARA-SAMA!
LOOK OUT!
ガッ
WE MUST SEAL THEM.
CRACK
CRACK
CRACK
CRACK
CRACK
GYA HH !!

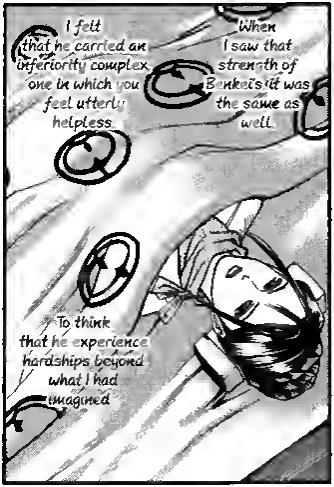
YOUR HANDS WERE BOUND?!!
MY WORD!!
How cruel...
F-For two whole years...
F-FOR HOW LONG?
A-About two years.
N-No, Keishin-sama is not cruel.
That...
My hands were the ones that...

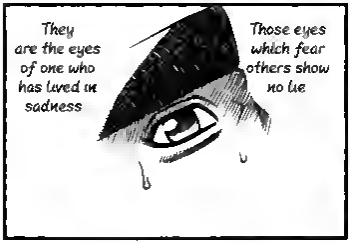
Be...
Benkei...
WHAT IS YOUR NAME?
Y-YOU.
He blames himself...
Even after being treated as such
I SHALL ASK HIDEHIRA-DONO ABOUT THIS ONE'S SITUATION TOMORROW!!
I-I SHALL DEAL WITH THIS LATER.
Y-YES, PRINCESS!!
To think this one is an assassin

Benkei
is it?


Even I was ridiculed for having a large body as a woman
And suffered because of it

I believe Benkei spoke the truth


I felt that he carried an inferiority complex, one in which you feel utterly helpless
When I saw that strength of Benkei's it was the same as well
To think that he experience hardships beyond what I had imagined


They are the eyes of one who has lived in sadness
Those eyes which fear others show no lie

He is like me five years ago.
KOYOU
MARRY ME
SHUUGO,
A-ARE YOU SURE YOU ARE FINE WITH ME?
IT HAS TO BE YOU
I WANT TO LIVE THE REST OF MY LIFE WITH YOU, KOYOU

RYOUKA YOU CAN'T COME OUT HERE
I KNOW. I WON'T GET IN THE WAY
SHUUGO.

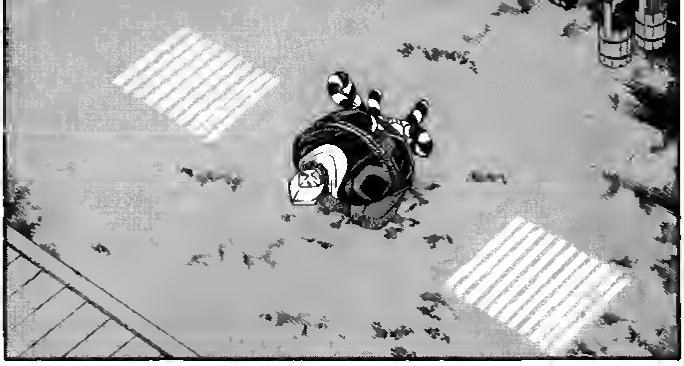
LOOKS LIKE IT'S GOING WELL WITH KOYOU.
YEAH, IT'S GOING NICELY.
MAN, YOU'RE GOOD.
WITH THIS, YOUR POSITION IS SET.
OF COURSE. WHY ELSE DO YOU THINK...
I'D GO SO FAR AS MARRY KOYOU?
IT'S ALL TO FOR THE SAKE OF MOVING UP AND OBTAINING AN OFFICE.
I'LL DO WHATEVER IT TAKES TO RISE UP AND GET MY HANDS ON WEALTH!!

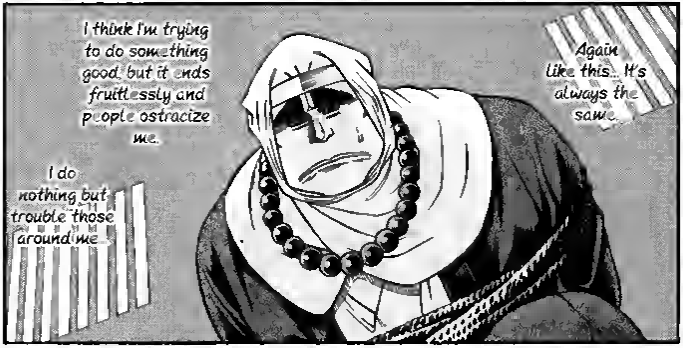
OTHERWISE, A BIG GIRL LIKE THAT...
IT WOULD BE EMBARRASSING JUST WALKING AROUND WITH HER!!
KOYOU-SAMA!! KOYOU-SAMA HAS..!!
H-HELP!!
GUU
GUU
GUU

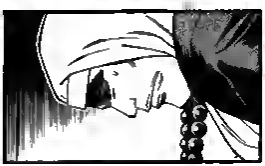
Benkei and I may be alike...
Wondering if my being different from those around me was the reason no one liked me, I lived in fear and sadness

!!
I MUST APOLOGIZE TO BENKEI, SAYING IT WAS OUR MISTAKE, AND HAVE HIM RETURN.
THERE IS NO LONGER A NEED TO CONFIRM WITH HIDEHIRA-SAMA.

COME QUIETLY WITH US

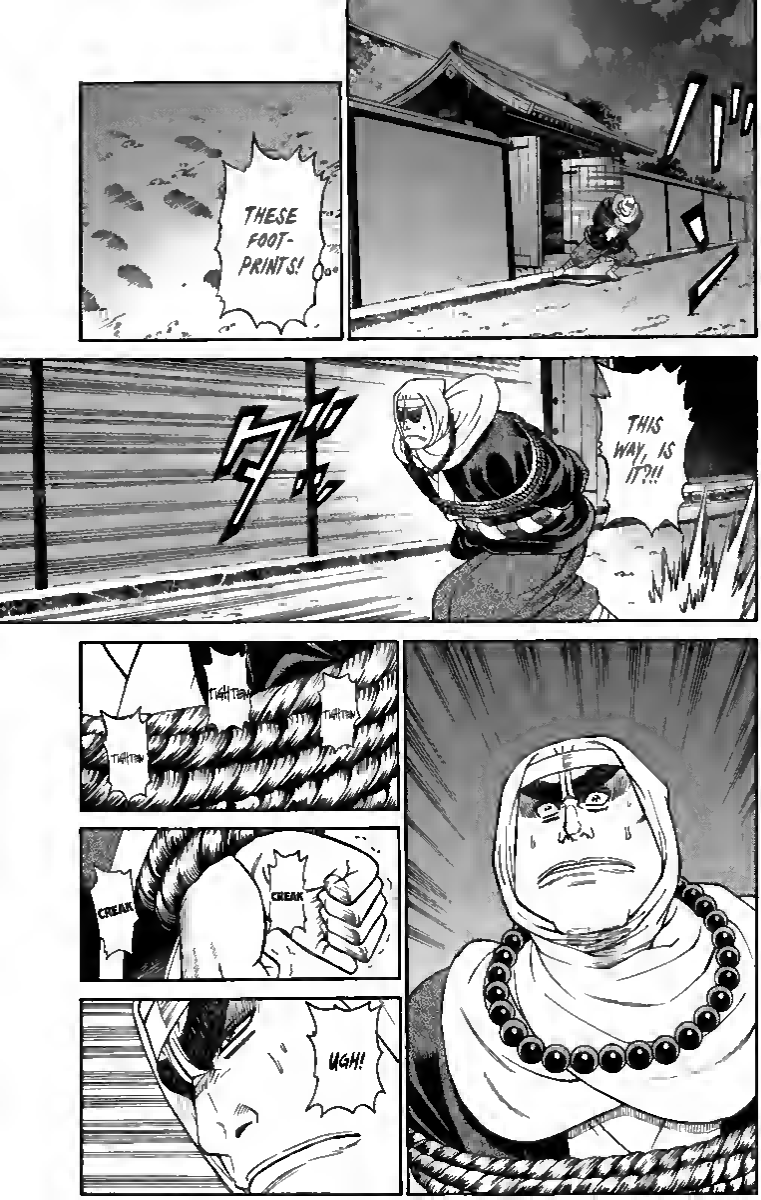



I think I'm trying to do something good, but it ends fruitlessly and people ostracize me.
Again. Like this... It's always the same.
I do nothing but trouble those around me.

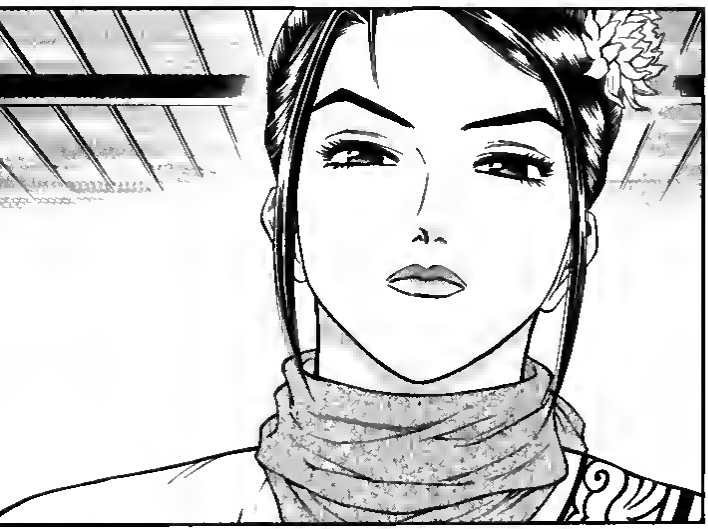


Even Koyou-dono has come to hate me.

TAKE THE CORPSE TO A PLACE IT WON'T BE FOUND, TOO.
TAKE CARE OF HER SO THAT HIDEHIRA-SAMA DOESN'T TAKE NOTICE.
COULD IT BE?!
!!


THESE FOOT-PRINTS!
THIS WAY, IS IT?!!
THUMP
THUMP
THUMP
CREAK
CREAK
UGH!

SNAP
SNAP
SNAP
I won't allow them
To harm Koyou-dono!!
VOLUME 15 END
TO BE CONTINUED



あとがき

15巻はいかがだったでしょうか？

義経を知っている人なら、泰衡の人物設定は意外な感じがするかもしれませんが、この「遮那王」は、ひと味違います。これからあの泰衡がどう変わっていくか、それとも変わらないのか、この先をお楽しみに！

「弁慶の恋」は平泉に取材に行ったとき、地元の義経研究家の人と「たぶん一番近い外国とも交流があったんじゃないか」という話になり、この頃は金国か‥‥と考えて出来た話です。金国に詳しい人は、細かい風俗の間違いがあっても許してやって下さい。

前巻の14巻では、原稿が上がった瞬間、原稿にコーヒーをこぼしてしまって、4Pほど描き直しや修正をしなければならない回があり、泣きながら直した事もありましたが、今回はそんなヘマもなく、無事進めました。(笑)
次巻は金国人炸裂となりますので、どうか16巻も読んでみてやって下さい。

2006.1.26.　沢田ひろふみ

姫！　姫が好きです!!
格好良く、サバサバしてて
でも、弱さ（？）もあって‥‥

こんな女になりてぇ!!と
思うけど、成人してるのに、深夜
「中学生がこんな時間に
何やってるんだ!!」と
警察官に注意された私に
は無理かしら‥‥

伊予えーか

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Korean Translators
Redrawers
Japanese Translators
Recruiting
Editors
Chinese Translators
Typesetters
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Quality Checkers
Easy Going Scans
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